



WIGTOWN BOOK FESTIVAL

22 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER 2017



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Subscribe to Baillie Gifford's free *Trust* magazine and you could win a luxury break to Edinburgh, the first ever city to be designated City of Literature by UNESCO.

Indulge your love of books with a literary tour or a visit to one of Edinburgh's monuments or museums dedicated to literature. In August, you can attend the world-renowned Edinburgh International Book Festival, or try one of the many shows on offer at the International or Fringe festivals. In December, Edinburgh's city centre is transformed into a winter wonderland, with fairgrounds, Christmas markets and twinkling lights. Whatever the time of year you can enjoy a vast choice of historic attractions, galleries, shopping, live events and stunning gardens.

The prize is for two people and includes three nights' accommodation in the majestic 5-star Balmoral Hotel, with breakfast each morning and access to the Balmoral Spa. Also included are first class return rail tickets, dinner one evening in the Michelin-starred Number One restaurant and two-day Royal Edinburgh bus tour tickets.

For your opportunity to win this fantastic prize, complete the reply paid card in *Trust* magazine, which can be found in the Baillie Gifford Festival Hub, or enter online now at www.bailliegyfford.com/literaryprize

Terms and conditions apply.



PHOTO: LEWIS MACKENZIE / HEBRIDES FISH N' TRIPS



Welcome

Some of you reading this may live in Wigtown. Others will travel far to get here. Wherever you come from, bide awhile as we attempt to stimulate, surprise and delight you.

Wigtown is often called remote. This festival begs to differ. For all its geographical isolation, look carefully and you will find that Scotland's National Book Town has never been more connected to and engaged with the world.

This year we explore the local and the global. As ever, we celebrate the writers on our doorstep and consider some of the great figures of this region's past, from Thomas Telford to Thomas Carlyle.

But we also look overseas, in particular to our European neighbours, because their stories are our stories, too. We hope that you enjoy these voices from elsewhere.

Now back to the local. It takes a town to make a festival, and what a town Wigtown is. A huge thank you to all our volunteers, whose energy, curiosity and warmth are the lifeblood of this event. Who better to welcome the world?

Adrian Turpin Artistic Director

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FESTIVAL2017



Mark Beaumont in 2016

Change is in the air

Revolution permeates our programme this year, and regular visitors may also notice a change or two around the festival itself. In January, we moved offices to 11 North Main Street, where our new box office is situated. Around the corner, you'll find a new venue The Print Room – so-called because it was previously used by Historic Newspapers. And we're delighted that our young people's team, WTF, now has a home at the heart of the festival, in front of the County Buildings.

This brochure contains a few small but important changes, too. Identifying numbers for each event aim to make booking by phone and at the box-office easier, while practical information, including travel and booking details, is now concentrated in an extended listings section at the back. We hope it makes it easier to use. Do let us know.

THIS YEAR'S THEMES



Revolutions

Taking inspiration from the anniversaries of the Russian Revolution and the Protestant Reformation, we consider technological, social and political revolutions and the forces that drive them. Donald Trump and Brexit get a mention.



World Town

Our World Town strand puts voices from other countries and cultures at the heart of the festival, as well as exploring Wigtown's international connections, historical and contemporary. From Germany to Morocco, Catalonia to Syria, we spin the globe.



Walking & Talking

Walking and writing are natural bedfellows. Our short series of author walks – from the silent and pilgrim to the positively playful – aims to refresh the spirit and exercise mind and body, and is part of a broader theme of encouraging conversation.



Scotland's History

To mark Scotland's Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology, we will be entering the worlds of Jacobites, Covenanters and Vikings, and looking at the particular contribution that this area of south-west Scotland has made to the national story.

INNOVATE
LITERATURE



INNOVATELITERATURE

On Thursday 28 September, we will be hosting INNOVATELITERATURE. Run by VisitScotland, this is a special event that looks at interesting developments in Scotland's thriving literature sector. We'll be hearing stories of innovation and asking how the nation's literary heritage, contemporary writers and events can help inspire new visitors to Scotland. A must for literature professionals and the simply curious.



WIN A LIBRARY



Which writer would you like to meet?

Luxury Scotland is a group of 31 hotels in Scotland. Each of these hotels has a link to a book or an author, and a little library has been created. For example, Knockinaam Lodge was the scene for John Buchan's *The 39 Steps*, Crinan Hotel was often visited by the old puffer Para Handy, and Karen Blixen who wrote *Out of Africa* often stayed at The Torridon in Wester Ross. Samuel Johnson and James Boswell wrote *A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland*, the area which MV Hebridean Princess cruises for much of the year, and Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped* details the Appin Murder which took place near Airds Hotel in Port Appin.

To celebrate its 25th Anniversary, Luxury Scotland wishes to give away this library of 31 books to someone who answers the following question in the most creative way.

If you could sit down with any Scottish writer, past or present and discuss a book with them, who would it be, where would you like to have the discussion and what book would you like to talk about?

Please email answers to Jeremy Hawkings, Chief Executive, Luxury Scotland at jeremy@luxscot.co.uk.

Closing date 31 October 2017.
www.luxuryscotland.co.uk



FESTIVAL2017

VISUAL ARTS

From Morocco to Scotland

Our 2017 Upland residency, "Confluence", explores links between Celtic and Arabian storytelling traditions. Storytellers Anne Errington from Scotland and Mehdi El Ghaly from Morocco, together with photographers Laura Hudson Mackay and Houssain Belabbes, will be out and about collecting and sharing tales. "Whenever there was a storyteller in the square in Marrakech you'd find me there," Mehdi says. "And I as grew the passion for storytelling grew in me. So, I said to myself, 'Why not become a storyteller?' I want to share the art that changed my own life."



PHOTO: LAURA HUDSON MACKAY



The Bookshop Band

A free exhibition exploring the artistic conversation between a bookshop, a band, nine artists and over a hundred authors from around the world, including bestselling authors Louis de Bernières, Joanne Harris, Patrick Gale and David Mitchell as well as Man Booker winners Ben Okri and Yann Martel. *The Studio*, 5 Harbour Road. Daily 12 noon-5pm



Beyond the Page

With original prints and hand-bound artists' books from artists Pamela Grace, Claire Cameron-Smith, Susie Leiper and Susie Wilson, this exhibition considers the relevance of printmaking and bookbinding today, and offers insights into the processes involved. Craigard Gallery will also be hosting accompanying workshops in the week. Email sarahlstewart@live.com for details.

Craigard Gallery, 13 North Main St. Daily 10am-5pm

Illustrate!

This free exhibition displays the skills of the illustrator, using original artwork from local artists to show the path from idea to finished book. With work from Mike Abel, Shalla Gray, Amanda Sunderland, Hugh Bryden and Ruthie Redden.

Unit Three, Bladnoch Bridge Estate DG8 9AB, (unit3gallery.co.uk). Mon-Tues 10am-2pm; Wed-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat 12noon-4pm

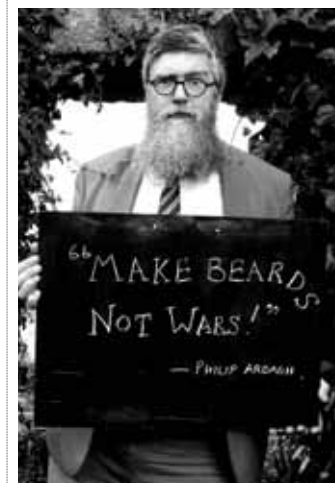


The Travelling Gallery

A custom-built, mobile art space inside a beautiful bus, the Travelling Gallery takes high-quality art exhibitions all over Scotland. It visits the festival on 29 and 30 September, when it will be hosting sculptor Lauren Printy Currie's show, inspired by Glasgow Women's Library.

Be a revolutionary

How would you change the world? The writer and photographer Robert Twigger wants your one-line manifesto. Look out for him around the festival.



the 2017 PROGRAMME



11.30 AM
Jack Hunter
A Tale of Two Baldoons
The Print Room | £5
In Canada's 150th anniversary year, historian Jack Hunter marks the life of a Galloway man who was one of the founders of that country. Alexander Douglas, Earl of Selkirk, established three colonies to give dispossessed Highlanders a new life there and, despite bitter opposition, secured the prairies for the fledgling nation. [101]
Sponsored by WA Barclay

1PM
Iain Gale
Always a Borderer
McNeillie Tent | £5
Founded to defend Edinburgh against the Jacobites, the King's Own Scottish Borderers were at the heart of Britain's military history from Culloden to Passchendaele. Iain Gale tells the story of the regiment and their strong Galloway contingent, including Wigtown's Victoria Cross-winner Louis McGuffie. [102]
Sponsored by Galloway Preservation Society

1PM
Cream o' Galloway Farm Visit
Cream o' Galloway, Rainton near Gatehouse of Fleet | £6
A producer of organic ice cream



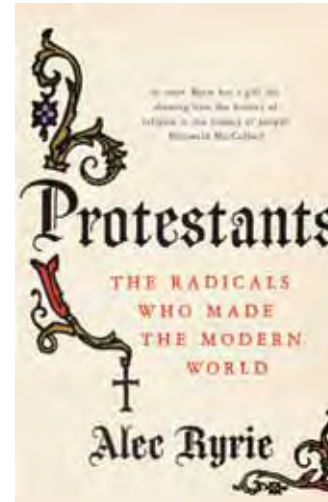
and now cheese, Cream o' Galloway is pioneering "calf at foot" dairy farming, which allows dairy cows to suckle their calves directly. An insight into an innovative approach to animal welfare. [103]

2.30PM
Robert J Harris
The Thirty-One Kings
McNeillie Tent | £5 (free for friends)
Robert J Harris's novel picks up sometime after John Buchan's *The 39 Steps*. When an agent goes missing, Richard Hannay is called out of retirement. His job? To protect the secret of the 31 Kings on which Europe's safety depends. The author talks about stepping into the shoes of Scotland's master of adventure. [104]
Sponsored by Lex Muir Consultancy



Robert J Harris, 2.30pm, Friday 22 September

wigtownbookfestival.com



Alec Ryrie, 5.30pm, Friday 22 September

4PM
Janet Walkinshaw
The Five Year Queen
McNeillie Tent | £5
The year is 1537. Young, beautiful and widowed, Mary of Guise is the reluctant bride of James V. With a quarrelsome court and Henry VIII waiting to invade, the future mother of Mary, Queen of Scots will need all her wits to survive. Janet Walkinshaw discusses her thrilling exploration of Reformation Scotland. [105]
Sponsored by The Old Bank Bookshop

5.30PM
Alec Ryrie
Protestants: The Radicals Who Made the Modern World
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Five hundred years ago Protestant Christianity began with one stubborn monk. Today, it includes a billion people across the globe. Professor of the History of Christianity at Durham University, Alec Ryrie discusses how the upheaval triggered by Martin Luther inspired one of the most creative and destructive movements in human history. [106]
Sponsored by R & M Wilcox

Wigtown Book Festival 2017

5.30PM
Janet Morgan
Agatha Christie: A Biography
McNeillie Tent | £6
Given unprecedented access to Agatha Christie's papers, Janet Morgan crafted the definitive life of the world's bestselling novelist, a figure whose distaste for the limelight was almost as great as her fame. Morgan looks afresh at her groundbreaking biography, re-released to coincide with a new film of *Murder on the Orient Express*. [107]
Sponsored by Andrew Plunkett Steel Buildings Ltd

7PM
Shaun Bythell
The Diary of a Bookseller
County Buildings, Main Hall | £7
Shaun Bythell owns The Bookshop in Wigtown, 100,000 volumes, spread over almost a mile of shelving in Scotland's Book Town. A book-lover's paradise? Well, almost. In conversation with agent **Jenny Brown**, he launches his hilarious diaries, which provide an inside look at the trials of life in the book trade, from eccentric customers to truculent staff. [108]

8.10PM
Festival Fireworks
Mercat Cross, Town Square | free
The Kirkcudbright and District Pipe Band leads the way for fireworks over Wigtown Bay. [109]
By kind permission of Bayview Nursery

8.30PM
Festival Party
Festival Marquee
Speakers, sponsors, Friends, volunteers, ambassadors and donors are warmly invited to celebrate the start of the 2017 festival. To become a festival Friend, phone 01988 402036 or write to mail@wigtownbookfestival.com. [110]
Sponsored by Corney & Barrow

9.30PM
Book at Bedtime
The Open Book | free
Bedtime readings inspired by the festival's themes. Hot chocolate provided. Pyjamas welcome. [111]



Janet Walkinshaw, 4pm, Friday 22 September



Janet Morgan, 5.30pm, Friday 22 September



9AM–12 NOON
Street Wisdom
 Meet County Buildings
 | free, booking essential

Street Wisdom is a way of using everyday surroundings to find answers to life questions. With a trained guide, in this three-hour workshop you will tune up your senses before going on a quest for inspiration and finally sharing what you have learnt. What will the hidden messages, chance encounters and unexpected discoveries of an ordinary street tell you? [112]

9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST
The Chat Show

PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
 Start the day with music and chat from The Bookshop Band. Which guests are on the sofa today? Free coffee and pastries. (45 min). [113]

10.30AM
Patrick Barkham
Islander: A Journey Around Our Archipelago
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 Britain is an archipelago made up of two large islands and 6,289 smaller ones. Some, like the Isle of Man, resemble miniature nations, with their own language and tax laws; others are haunted by myths, ghosts or foxes. Embarking on an island odyssey from biggest to tiniest, Patrick Barkham will take you to places where the past is unusually

LIVE SURTITLES

In association with StageTEXT, the festival is providing live surtitling for people with hearing loss on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September in the County Buildings, Main Hall. Subtitled events are marked [S] in listings. www.stagetext.org.

Supported by Winifred Kennedy Trust



Will Ashon, 1.30pm, Saturday 23 September

present, but a vision of an alternative future can often be found. Patrick's previous books include *The Butterfly Isles* and *Badgerlands*. He writes for *The Guardian*. [S] [114]



10.30AM
Sarah Fraser & Jacqueline Riding
What If the Jacobites Had Won?
 McNeillie Tent | £6

What if the Glorious Revolution had failed or the Jacobite rebellion of 1715 had been successful? Or, 30

years later, the Young Pretender had triumphed at Culloden? In this playful hour, historians Jacqueline Riding (*Jacobites*) and Sarah Fraser (*The Last Highlander*) join *Stuart Kelly* in imagining an alternate history in which Stuarts ruled supreme and the Hanoverians were the rebels. [115]

12 NOON
Declan Murphy & Ami Rao
Centaur

Festival Marquee | £8
 Declan Murphy was one of the top jockeys of his generation until a life-changing fall. The last rites were read. The *Racing Post* even printed his obituary. But miraculously he survived, and would go on to ride one final race. Written with Ami Rao, the bestselling *Centaur* tells the extraordinary story of how he rebuilt his life when he could not even remember having been a jockey. It's a tale of fear, love, loss and, above all, hope, and it has deservedly been acclaimed by sports lovers and general readers alike. "A thing of dramatic beauty," *Mail on Sunday*. "A work of art," Clare Balding. "Brilliant, bold, at times brutal," *Sunday Telegraph*. [116]
 Sponsored by 3b construction



Andrew O'Hagan, 1.30pm, Saturday 23 September

12 NOON
THE SCOTTISH PEN EVENT
A Question of Immigration
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
 How is immigration changing Scotland and can the nation chart a separate course from England? Is our politicians' generally open attitude to migration representative? To discuss, we welcome **Alasdair Allan**, Minister for International Development and Europe. He is joined by **Robert Wright**, Professor of Economics at the University of Strathclyde and a founder of the Centre for Population Change, and **Marjorie Lotfi Gill** of The Belonging Project. Chaired by the writer **Richard Holloway**. [117]

12 NOON
Marie-Elsa Bragg
Towards Mellbreak
 McNeillie Tent | £6

Marie-Elsa Bragg is daughter of the broadcaster and author Melvyn Bragg, and painter and novelist Lise Roche. She is a writer and Duty Chaplain of Westminster Abbey. She talks about her enthralling debut

novel *Towards Mellbreak*, which is set in Cumbria between 1971 and 1994 and spans four generations of a hill farming family. [118]
 Sponsored by RSPB

1.30PM
Andrew O'Hagan
The Secret Life
 Festival Marquee | £8

In *The Secret Life*, Andrew O'Hagan tells three strange true stories of the internet-age. These essays find him exploring the myths surrounding the inventor of Bitcoin, using a dead man's identity to create a fake person in cyberspace and, most memorably, trying and failing to ghost-write the autobiography of Julian Assange. One of Scotland's literary originals talks to *Stuart Kelly*. [119]
 Sponsored by Rowan Glen

1.30PM
Will Ashon
Strange Labyrinth
 McNeillie Tent | £6
Strange Labyrinth is the brilliant account of what happens when a cowardly middle-age man seeks enlightenment in one of Britain's ancient forests. It's a tale of Dick Turpin, Jacob Epstein, TE Lawrence and John Clare – but also of punk rockers, killers and scary dogs. He talks to *Peggy Hughes* about the joys of getting lost in the woods. [120]

1.30PM
Cathy Rentzenbrink
A Manual for Heartache

County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
 In her bestselling memoir *The Last Act of Love*, Cathy Rentzenbrink movingly recounted the story of the death of her brother, following a childhood car accident. The response from readers, often telling their own stories of grief, led her to write *A Manual For Heartache*, a witty, wise and very personal guide to recovery. "Generous, honest and uplifting. People need this book." Nina Stibbe [S] [121]



Declan Murphy & Ami Rao, 12 noon, Saturday 23 September



Marie-Elsa Bragg, 12 noon, Saturday 23 September



2.30–4.30PM

Café Morocco

PHC Room,

ReadingLasses | free

This year's Upland artists-in-residence are storyteller **Mehdi El Ghaly** and photographer **Houssain Belabbes** from Morocco and their Scottish counterparts **Anne Errington** and **Laura Hudson Mackay**. Together they will be exploring storytelling traditions from the two countries. Drop in to the PHC Room behind ReadingLasses for some mint tea to hear and maybe share some yarns.



3PM

DISCUSSION

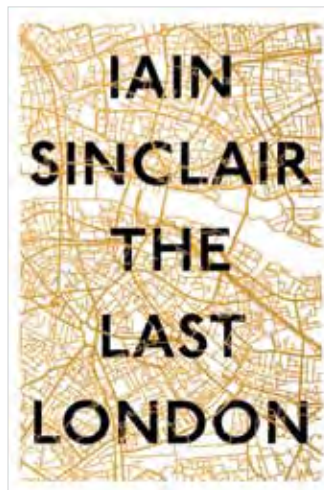
The New French Revolution

Festival Marquee | £8

The remarkable rise of Emmanuel Macron and his political movement En Marche has led to comparisons to the young Tony Blair – and even, by more excitable types, to a young Napoleon. What does his triumph mean for France? And what lessons does the resurgence of that country's centre-left offer for British politics? Our panel: political analyst **Alexandre Kouchner**; Radio France broadcaster **Catherine Guilyardi**; **Dr Andrew W M Smith**, Secretary of the Society for the Study of French History. Chaired by the *Herald* commentator and broadcaster **Iain Macwhirter**. [S] [122]



Bella Bathurst, 3pm,
Saturday 23 September



Iain Sinclair, 4.30pm, Saturday 23 September

3PM

Bella Bathurst Sound

County Buildings, Main Hall | £8

In 1997, Bella Bathurst began to lose her hearing, and for 12 years deafness shaped her life. Then, in 2009, everything changed again. She talks about her extraordinary experience and what it taught her about listening and silence, music and noise. Investigating the science of deafness, she argues that if sight gives us the world, hearing gives us

each other – and our relationship with sound is far more complex than we might expect. This event has StageText surtitles. "A book to remind us to treasure the gift of sound," *The Times*. [S] [123]

3PM

Jenny Landreth Swell: A Waterbiography

McNeillie Tent | £8

It's hard to believe that not so long ago public swimming was almost exclusively the domain of men. Even in the 20th century, a woman could be arrested for jumping into a lake. Part memoir, part social history, Jenny Landreth's joyful and funny book tells the often incredible stories of "swimming's suffragettes". She invites you to take the plunge with her. "If you love swimming you'll love this. If you hate swimming, you'll still love this," Jo Brand. [124]

3PM

Southlight 22 Launch

The Print Room | free

You are cordially invited to the launch of the new edition of *Southlight*. The new-writing magazine for Dumfries & Galloway features a selection of the region's most

exciting poetry, prose, interviews and illustration, with guest contributors from the rest of Scotland. [125]

4.30PM

THE MAGNUSON LECTURE

Gavin Esler

How Stories Build Trust

Festival Marquee | £9

Award-winning broadcaster Gavin Esler will talk about how leaders use storytelling, for good and ill, and why creating powerful new narratives is vital if we are going to rebuild the trust that has been lost in our institutions and political processes. The speaker is the author of five novels and two non-fiction books, *Lessons from the Top* and *The United States of Anger*. The Magnuson Lecture commemorates the life and reflects the interests of the academic and broadcaster Magnus Magnusson. [126]

Sponsored by The Open University



Gavin Esler, 4.30pm, Saturday 23 September



Ever Dundas, 4.30pm, Saturday 23 September

4.30PM

Iain Sinclair

The Last London

County Buildings, Main Hall | £8

Hailed as our leading "psychogeographer", Iain Sinclair has spent much of his life documenting the magic of the river-city that absorbs and obsesses him. *The Last London* sees him striking out on a final series of expeditions, exploring the myths of the metropolis and its tentacular grip on the imagination. His numerous critically acclaimed books include *Lights Out for the Territory*, *London Orbital* and *Downriver*. "Britain's finest writer," Alan Moore. [S] [127]

Sponsored by R Barclay

4.30PM

Ever Dundas Goblin

McNeillie Tent | £6

In Blitz-torn London, an outcast girl takes refuge in a fantasy world after witnessing a shocking incident, her only comfort a host

of abandoned pets rescued from London's streets. Seven decades later, a chance meeting and an unwelcome phone call force her to leave Edinburgh and return to the city of her childhood to face her demons. Ever Dundas's novel has been acclaimed as one of the finest Scottish debuts of recent years. She talks to *Peggy Hughes*. [128]

Sponsored by Norrie Steel

4.30PM

MUSIC

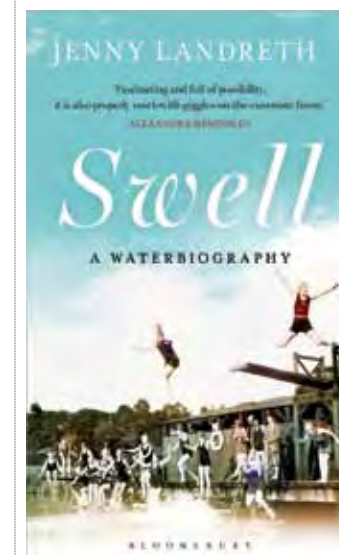
Alison Lawrance & Cheryl Crockett

Kodaly & Ravel

Sacred Heart Church | £8

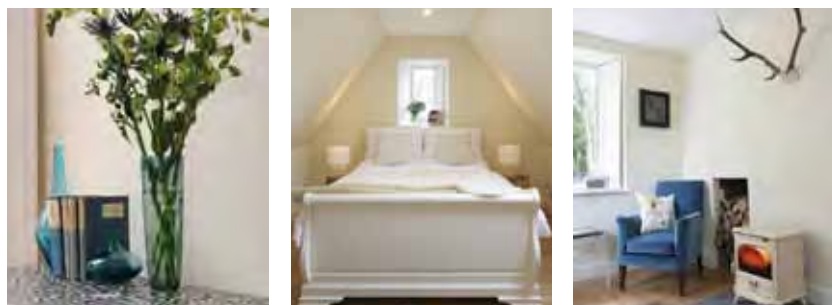
Members of the Scottish ensemble, Alison Lawrance and Cheryl Crockett play two 20th-century masterpieces for violin and cello: the duo by Zoltan Kodaly (1882–1967), inspired by the folk music of his native Hungary; and the sonata by Maurice Ravel (1875–1937), written following a period of physical and emotional recovery after the first world war. [129]

Sponsored by L Prentice



Jenny Landreth, 3pm, Saturday 23 September

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Commoners Choir

Festival Marquee | £6

Established in Yorkshire in 2015 by Chumbawumba singer Boff Whalley, Commoners Choir is a community choir with a difference – “a ragbag of ne’er do wells, misfits and troublemaking cake eaters”. Like a singing newspaper, they sing about things that happen, things that should be happening, things that matter, rousing the rabble and raising a smile or two. Insurrection has never been so harmonious or funny. [130]

Commoners Choir, 6pm, Saturday 23 September

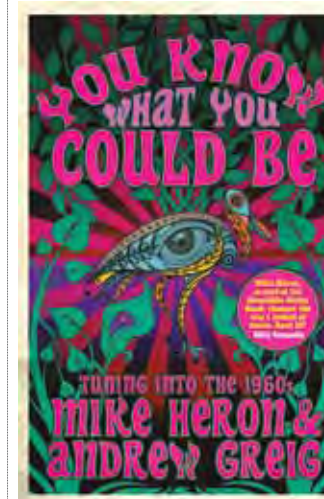


6PM

Mike Heron & Andrew Greig

You Know What You Could Be: Tuning into the 1960s

County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
In the 1960s, Mike Heron was a founder member of *The Incredible String Band*, the Edinburgh-based “psychedelic folk” group that would influence the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and David Bowie. Novelist and poet Andrew Greig was a frustrated schoolboy in Fife, idolising his heroes from afar. Now friends and collaborators, they present a double memoir about youth, musical passion and a world in the throes of change. “Mike Heron ... changed the way I looked at music.” Billy Connolly. [131]
Sponsored by SW Audio



Mike Heron & Andrew Greig, 6pm, Saturday 23 September

7.30PM

TASTING

Nikki Welch & Blair Bowman

The Whisky Tube Map

McNeillie Tent | £10 inc whisky
All aboard! Drink writer Nikki Welch and World Whisky Day founder Blair Bowman will take you on a sensuous journey around the Whisky Tube Map. Follow the Intrepid Line to the spirit’s geographical extremes. Hop on a ferry to the island of Outliers. Or luxuriate on the Decadent Line. It will change the way you think about a dram. [133]
Sponsored by Creebridge House Hotel



I, Daniel Blake

County Buildings, Cinema | £6
Ken Loach’s Palme d’Or-winning tale of one man’s struggle against an uncaring bureaucracy. Introduced by **Paul Laverty**. [134]

8.30PM

Wigtown’s Got Talent

Festival Marquee | £6
Finn McCreath returns to host a mercifully shorter, less swear-y version of Wigtown’s third-favourite Saturday-evening talent show. Visitors, authors and locals are invited to compete for the Golden Pencil. Do you have a talent that could amuse, entertain or amaze? If so, please ring 01988 403222 or email claire@wigtownbookfestival.com. [135]
Sponsored by dgwgo.com

9.30PM

Book at Bedtime

The Open Book | free
A bedtime reading loosely reflecting the festival’s themes. Hot chocolate provided. Pyjamas welcome. [136]

Student Saver

Registered students over 26 can buy tickets for £2 on the door for main programme events from 15 minutes before the start, subject to availability. This concession is valid, on production of ID, from 10am-6pm.

The Human Book

Look out for our Human Books in the Festival Bookshop throughout the day. A chance to meet some of the festival's writers one-to-one. Roll a dice. Pick a topic from the menu provided and listen to a story. Or simply blather.

9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST

 **How To Be a Craftivist**
PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5

Sarah Corbett of the Craftivist Collective discusses how to use craft as a tool for gentle activism. Free coffee and pastries (50 min) [137]

10AM
Festival Fun Run

Meet County Buildings | free
Join writers and other runners for the annual 5km fun run.

10.30AM
Angus Roxburgh
Moscow Calling

Festival Marquee | £8
Broadcaster Angus Roxburgh has translated Tolstoy, met three successive Russian presidents and been jinxed by a Siberian shaman. He has been shot at in war zones and arrested by Chechen thugs. He was even wooed by the KGB, who decided he would make a lousy spy and expelled him. In his new book *Moscow Calling*, he presents a very personal Russia: a crazy, exasperating, beautiful world

LIVE SURTITLES

In association with StageTEXT, the festival is providing live surtitling for people with hearing loss on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September in the County Buildings, Main Hall. Surtitled events are marked [S] in listings. www.stagetext.org.
Supported by Winifred Kennedy Trust



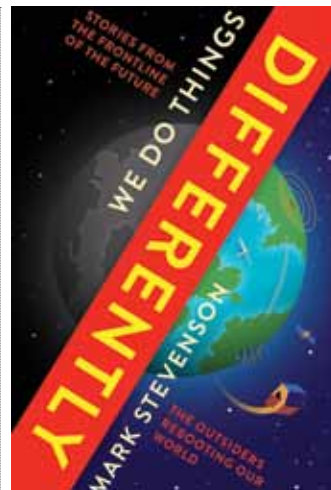
unto itself that in four decades has changed utterly, yet not at all. [138]
Sponsored by dgwgo.com

10.30AM
Chris Rollie
Jack Gordon's Birds of Wigtownshire 1890-1935
McNeillie Tent | £5

A famed ornithologist and mentor to Gavin Maxwell, Jack Gordon never published his work on Wigtownshire's birdlife. Now, after 120 years, it has finally seen light of day. The result is a birders' treasure trove but also an atmospheric record of a vanished era and changed countryside. [139]
Sponsored by Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere

 **12 NOON**
DISCUSSION
Brexit: The View from Europe
Festival Marquee | £8

What are the motivations of the 27 other countries who will need to sign up to any agreement? How has the UK's decision to leave shaken the continent? And what might Europe's future look like without its troublesome island member? We look abroad for some answers. Our panel: **Jan Culík**, senior lecturer in Czech studies, University of



Mark Stevenson, 1.30pm, Sunday 24 September

Glasgow; **Daphne Halikiopoulou**, Associate Professor in Comparative Politics, University of Reading; **Anne Saenen**, London correspondent for broadcaster RTL in The Netherlands. Chaired by **Halla Mohieddeen**, anchor of STV's *News Tonight*. [140]
Sponsored by Penkiln Sawmill

12 NOON
Kevin Toolis
My Father's Wake: How the Irish Teach Us To Live, Love and Die
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
For twenty years, writer and



Megan Hunter, 12 noon, Sunday 24 September

filmmaker Kevin Toolis sought to understand death as he encountered famine, war and plague across the world. But it was closer to home, on the island of his forebears in County Mayo, that he found some kind of answer. He discusses his beautiful memoir, in which he recounts his experiences of watching his father's passing and offers a broader account of how we face up to mortality. [S] [141]

12 NOON
Megan Hunter & Philip Miller
The End We Start From & All the Galaxies
McNeillie Tent | £6

In Megan Hunter's remarkable debut, *The End We Start From*, a woman gives birth as London disappears beneath flood waters, forcing her and her family to become refugees. Philip Miller's *All the Galaxies* imagines a ruined Glasgow after a failed independence referendum and the collapse of government. *Cathy Rentzenbrink* talks to two talented and original novelists and asks why dystopian fiction has never been so popular. [142]

Wigtown Book Festival 2017

 **1.30PM**
Sarah Fraser
The Prince Who Would Be King: The Life and Death of Henry Stuart
Festival Marquee | £8

Sarah Fraser tells the astonishing story of the greatest king Britain never had, the oldest son of James VI. Acclaimed as the long-sought soldier-Prince who would save his people from Catholicism, the godson of Queen Elizabeth was a celebrity across Europe. Charismatic and energetic, he championed the sciences, the arts and exploration, conceiving a plan to modernise Britain's navy. Yet, incredibly, he was just 18 when he died. [143]

Sponsored by Hillcrest House

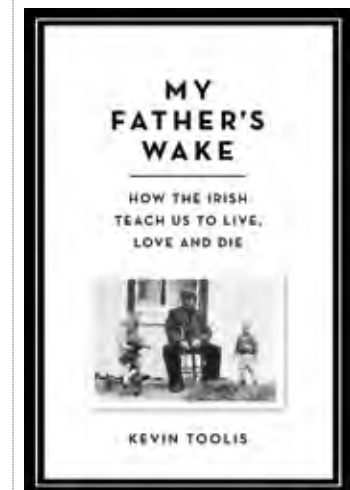
 **1.30PM**
Mark Stevenson
We Do Things Differently: The Outsiders Rebooting Our World

County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
Our systems are failing. Old models – for education, healthcare and government, food production, energy supply – are creaking. As the world's population heads towards 10 billion, it's clear we need new approaches. Futurologist Mark Stevenson has set out to find them, across four continents, from Brazil's favelas to a shed in the home counties. He reveals what he discovered. [S] [144]
Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

1.30PM
Miranda Doyle
A Book of Untruths
McNeillie Tent | £6

Miranda Doyle's grippingly unreliable memoir is unlike most. Each chapter begins with a lie told to or by the author. In this way she constructs a story about her family, a troubled Edinburgh childhood and in particular her charismatic and elusive father. It's a book about love, marriage and kinship ties. But it's also an examination of the stories we tell ourselves – and others – to survive from the white lie to the sin of omission and the shameless whopper. She tries to tell the truth to *Peggy Hughes*. [145]

Sponsored by citybothy.com



Kevin Toolis, 12 noon, Sunday 24 September





Anthony McGowan, 3pm, Sunday 24 September

3PM
DISCUSSION
The End of American Influence?

Festival Marquee | £8
Angry, divided and constitutionally challenged, increasingly distant from its western allies, the US has not looked so ill-at-ease since the second world war. Is the sun setting on the American age? And how might it rise again? Our panel: **Chris Carman**, Stevenson Professor of Citizenship at the University of Glasgow; **Charlie Wolf**, political commentator, and formerly the Communications Director of Republicans Abroad UK; **Christopher Turpin**, vice-president news and operations, National Public Radio. Chaired by the broadcaster **Gavin Esler**, author of *The United States of Anger*. [146]
Sponsored by S Cronnie Family Butcher

3PM
Tiffany Jenkins
Keeping Their Marbles
County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
Tiffany Jenkins tells how some of archaeology's greatest treasures ended up in Western museums, from

the Benin bronzes to the bust of Nefertiti. She looks at the intriguing and sometimes bloody tale of how these items were wrenched from their original context, arguing controversially that these objects should not be returned to the lands from which they came. [S] [147]

3PM
Anthony McGowan
The Art of Failing: Notes from the Underdog

McNeillie Tent | £6
Stumbling from one fiasco to the next, Anthony McGowan is a man at odds with the universe. In this 21st-century *Diary of a Nobody*, he ponders the stuff of life itself: holed socks, packed lunches, broken washing machines, the eccentricities of the British Library and disapproving ladies on trains. An hour of essential wit and wisdom for anyone who has ever known what it is to be an underdog. [148]

3PM
MUSIC
Galloway Consort

The Last Pavane
The Print Room | £7
The Last Pavane is the standalone third and final telling of the tale of two Renaissance lovers whose fates were inextricably linked with that of Mary, Queen of Scots. Their



Paul Laverty (left, pictured with Ken Loach), 4.30pm, Sunday 24 September

story is illustrated by music of their tempestuous age, played on Renaissance recorders, viols, guitar and percussion. [149]
Sponsored by The Biggest Little Store in Town

4.30PM
Paul Laverty
I, Paul Laverty

Festival Marquee | £8
Brought up in Wigtownshire, Paul Laverty worked as a human rights lawyer in Nicaragua before penning his first screenplay, *Carla's Song*, for the director Ken Loach. Since then he worked with Loach on numerous films including *My Name Is Joe* and *Sweet Sixteen*, winner of the Best Screenplay at Cannes. His latest film, *I, Daniel Blake*, won Outstanding British Film at the Baftas. One of Galloway's most successful sons discusses art, activism and roots. [150]
Sponsored by Merrick Real Estate

4.30PM
Antonia Bolingbroke-Kent
Land of the Dawn-lit Mountains
County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
The north-eastern corner of India, Arunachal Pradesh – "land of the dawn-lit mountains" – was closed to foreigners between 1950 and 1998. Antonia Bolingbroke-Kent set out to chronicle this forgotten Shangri-La. A brilliant speaker, she tells of her



Antonia Bolingbroke-Kent, 4.30pm, Sunday 24 September



Tiffany Jenkins, 3pm, Sunday 24 September

epic 2000-mile journey, encountering shamans, lamas, hunters, opium farmers, fantastic tribal festivals and little-known stories from the second world war. "A fabulously thrilling journey through a beguiling land," Joanna Lumley. [S] [151]
Sponsored by Wigtown Motor Company

4.30PM
Richard Littler
Discovering Scarfolk
McNeillie Tent | £6
Scarfolk is a town in north-west England that never progressed beyond 1979. Instead, the 1970s

Wigtown Book Festival 2017

loops ad infinitum: pagan rituals blend seamlessly with science, the priority is keeping rabies at bay, and everyone must be in bed by 8pm because they are perpetually running a slight fever. The town's "mayor", Richard Littler, discusses his inspired comic creation in his first ever book festival event. "One of the funniest things there is," Mark Gatiss. "One visit is not enough..." Ian Rankin. [152]
Sponsored by Bremner Design

6PM
Treasured: The World of the Galloway Viking Hoard
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6

In 2014, a metal detectorist unearthed Britain's richest haul of Viking-age treasure in a field in Dumfries & Galloway. The Galloway Hoard consists of more than 100 items, from across Europe, Byzantium and beyond, some hinting at previously unknown links between distant people. In this special event, we will be exploring the collection and the age it came from with **Andrew Nicholson**, archaeologist at Dumfries & Galloway Council, and **Ted Cowan**, emeritus professor of Scottish History, Glasgow University. There will also be readings of new poems, inspired by objects in the find. [153]
Sponsored by JD Owen & Sons Butchers

6PM
WINE TASTING
Nikki Welch

Conversation in a Bottle
The Print Room | £8
Talk and wine are inextricably linked. In this fun interactive event, devised specially for this year's festival, the author of *The Pocket Guide to Wine* invites you to find new ways to talk about wine – and to one another. [154]

7.30PM
FILM
Carry On Don't Lose Your Head

County Buildings, Cinema | £6
Revolutionary comedy from 1966. Cert PG. 90 min. [155]

7.30PM
Mostly Ghostly
Sorbie Tower By Night

Sorbie Tower | £8
Haunted history at the ancestral seat of Clan Hannay. See Friday 29 Sept, 7.30pm. [156]

7.30PM
THEATRE
Just An Ordinary Lawyer

Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £13.50
A concert singer and keen cricketer, Nigerian lawyer Tunji Sowande became Britain's first black judge. Tayo Aluko, tells his story in this musical one-man show. [157]

9.30PM
Book at Bedtime

The Open Book | free
Let us tell you a story - with hot chocolate. [158]



Carry On Don't Lose Your Head, 7.30pm, Sun 24 Sep



10.30AM

Ethyl Smith Changed Times &

Dark Times

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Set amid the tumult and intrigue of Scotland's Killing Times, Ethyl Smith's novels *Changed Times* and *Dark Times* powerfully reflect the changes that transformed 17th-century Scotland. She talks about the challenges of fictionalising an era of religious and social revolution. "Reminds us that the past is neither as distant nor as complete as we might like to think," James Robertson. [159]
Sponsored by Ast & Red

12 NOON

Sweetpea Slight Get Me the Urgent Biscuits: An Assistant's Adventures in Theatreland

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Sweetpea Slight wanted to be an actress. But, aged 18, she met the legendary eccentric and theatrical agent Thelma Holt, a woman the producer Bill Kenwright once described as "Einstein crossed with Bugs Bunny". Cancelling Slight's



Joseph Farrell, 1.30pm, Monday 25 September

22



Roy Hattersley, 6pm, Monday 25 September

drama audition, Holt employed her as an assistant. What followed was a uniquely theatrical education as she learnt to hold her own in a world of giant-sized egos and non-stop emergencies. She talks about her funny and delightfully gossipy memoir. "Full of charm and wit, with moments of poignancy," Nina Stibbe. [160]
Sponsored by The Open Book

1.30PM

Crafty Distillery Tour

Wigtown Rd, Newton Stewart | £6
This special festival tour of Wigtownshire's state-of-the art new distillery includes a chance to explore the flavours of the signature Hills and Harbour gin. [161]

1.30PM

Joseph Farrell Stevenson in Samoa

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Joseph Farrell's original account of Robert Louis Stevenson's last years in the Pacific reveals a man split in mind and heart. Stevenson immersed himself in Samoan life and culture, learning the language and becoming such a critic of imperial policy that the Colonial Office threatened to expel him. Yet he also dressed his servants in Royal Stewart tartan,



2PM

Casual Games for Casual Hikers

Galloway Forest Park, meet at Glentool Visitor Centre | £6
Join us for a ramble through the forest inspired by poet Harry Giles's playful *Casual Games for Casual Hikers*, a book and map of things to do on a gentle walk: stories to tell, rules for kicking pebbles, ways to name mountains, maps to draw when you get home. Masters of ceremonies are writer **Robert Twigger**, author of the self-help ebook *Walk* and novelist **Jessica Fox**. Approx 2 hours. [173]

and built a home with two fireplaces in a ferociously hot country. [162]
Sponsored by GC Books

3PM

Adam Macqueen

The Lies of the Land: A Brief History of Political Dishonesty
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Trust in our politicians is at an all-time low. But do politicians lie more than they used to? And do we even want them to tell the truth? *Private Eye*

wigtownbookfestival.com



Sweetpea Slight, 12 noon, Monday 25 September

journalist Adam Macqueen applies wit, warmth, and intelligence to the "post-fact" era, dissecting the biggest political lies of the last half century, from the Profumo Affair to Boris Johnson's £350m for the NHS. [163]



3PM

Gavin Maxwell's Lords of the Atlas

McNeillie Tent | £6
Published in 1966, Gavin Maxwell's magnificent travel book is the tale of Moroccan warlord brothers who combine the lethal elegance of gangland mobsters with the opulent charm of hereditary princes. It has been described as the greatest book written about Morocco by a foreigner. *Anne Brown* chairs a panel discussion about its influence. [164]

4.30PM

Chris Brookmyre Want You Gone

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
What if all your secrets were put online? What if sinister forces used that information to ruin your life? That's the dangerous scenario driving the new Jack Parlabane thriller from award-winning, best-selling novelist

Wigtown Book Festival 2017

Chris Brookmyre. Witty and profane in equal measures, he offers a terrifying tour of the dark web. [165]
Sponsored by Stranraer & Wigtownshire Free Press



4.30PM

Marian Veevers Jane and Dorothy

McNeillie Tent | £6
Jane Austen and Dorothy Wordsworth were born just four years apart in the 1770s, in a world torn between revolutionary fervour and fierce conservatism. Both were influenced by the Romantic ideals of Dorothy's brother, William Wordsworth. Marian Veevers tells the story of how two very different women responded to the injustices and restrictions of their age. [166]
Sponsored by The Open University

6PM

Roy Hattersley

The Catholics

Festival Marquee | £10
The former deputy Labour leader's sweeping history of Catholicism in post-Reformation Britain unfolds as a series of adventure stories, peopled by extraordinary characters. With a



Chris Brookmyre, 4.30pm, Monday 25 September

politician's insight, he examines the conflicts and intrigues of a faith that has survived against the odds. [167]
Sponsored by Bellis Consultancy

7.30PM

Dinner with Anne de Courcy

Exploring Coco Chanel's Riviera

The Old Manse, Harbour Rd | £35
In 1928, Coco Chanel purchased a small plot on the French Riviera. It would become her sanctuary, where she would entertain such luminaries as Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dali and Igor Stravinsky. At this informal three-course dinner, biographer Anne de Courcy gives a sneak preview of her work in progress, due in 2020. [168]
By kind permission of M Acton

7.30PM

Behind the Scenes at The Bookshop

The Bookshop | £6
Shaun Bythell's book *Diary of a Bookseller* is brought to life in the very shop in which it is set. Find humour, music and surprises among the shelves. 30 minutes; repeated at 8.30pm. [169]

7.30PM

THEATRE Just An Ordinary Lawyer

Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £13.50
One-man show about Britain's first black judge. See Sunday 24 Sept, 7.30pm. 104 min. [170]



7.30PM

FILM October

County Buildings, Cinema | £6
Sergei Eisenstein's 1928 silent movie depicting the Russian Revolution. Cert PG. 148 min. [171]

9.30PM

Book at Bedtime

The Open Book | free
Let us tell you a story – with hot chocolate. [172]



Anne de Courcy, 12 noon, Tuesday 26 September

9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST
The Chat Show
 PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
 Start the day with music and chat from The Bookshop Band. Which guests are on the sofa today? Free coffee and pastries. (45 min). [174]

10.30AM
Robin Crichton
On the Trail of
Merlin in a Dark Age
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 Did Merlin of Arthurian legend exist? Examining the archaeological evidence, film-maker and writer Robin Crichton tracks him down to the Tweed Valley, in the Borders and Dumfries & Galloway. He reveals a duel between St Mungo the priest and Merlin the pagan, played out against a web of Dark Age political intrigue. [175]
Sponsored by K McKay

12 NOON
Anne de Courcy
The Husband Hunters
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £7
 Between 1874 and 1914, Britain saw a torrent of young American heiresses

marrying into the aristocracy, bringing with them the wealth, glamour and sophistication of the Gilded Age. What did these ambitious young women – among them Winston Churchill's mother – see in the Old World? And how did their dreams work out? Anne de Courcy talks about her entertaining and insightful group biography. "Lively, shrewd and fresh as a gilded rose, de Courcy's book is her best yet," *Daily Telegraph* [176]
Sponsored by Wm Simpson & Son

1.30PM
Christopher Nicholson
Among the Summer Snows
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 From glinting crystals to ice fields as big as football pitches, Highland snows hide under cliffs and crags, persisting year round. Christopher Nicholson, author of two acclaimed novels, *The Elephant Keeper* and *Winter*, talks about his pilgrimage to find them. His is a journey as much about the science of snow and man's relationship with nature, as it is a meditation on mortality and consolation. "Ravishingly lovely," *Keggie Carew*, author of *Dadland*. [177]
Sponsored by R Topp

2PM
A Pilgrims' Progress
 Home Farm, Garlieston | £5

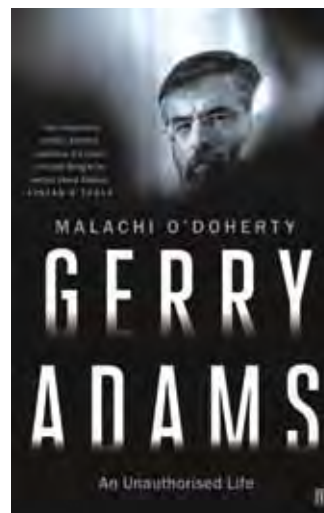
In the days before the festival a number of writers have been walking stages of the old pilgrimage route from Glasgow to Whithorn, with only a small diversion to Wigtown. Join us on a final stage through the beautiful Machars countryside, from Garlieston to Whithorn and learn about plans for Scotland's new long-distance walking trail, The Whithorn Way. Approx 2½ hours. [179]



Gail Honeyman, 4.30pm, Tuesday 26 September

3PM
Susanna Forrest
The Age of the Horse
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 Man has been fascinated by the symbolism and the reality of horses for more than 5,000 years. Susanna Forrest will take you on a journey through time and around the world, from the Mongolian steppes to the immense stables of Versailles, revealing how our culture and economy were shaped by horse power, its opportunities and limits. [178]
Sponsored by Colin Tennant Photography

4.30PM
James Canton
Ancient Wonderings
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 Drawn almost magnetically by a Scottish standing stone, James Canton began a trek across Britain, pursuing his obsession with the physical traces of the prehistoric world, from sacred circles to buried treasure. He invites you to explore a long-lost landscape and discover the minds and beliefs of those souls who lived on these lands thousands of years ago. "Intensely alive to the landscape; its pasts, people and creatures," *Robert Macfarlane*. [180]



Malachi O'Doherty, 6pm, Tuesday 26 September

4.30PM
TEA
Gail Honeyman
Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine
 McNeillie Tent | £6
 Eleanor Oliphant leads a simple life in Glasgow. She wears the same clothes to work every day, eats the same lunch, and buys the same two bottles of vodka to drink every weekend. But one simple act of kindness is about to shatter the walls she has built

around herself. Join Gail Honeyman for a cup of tea as she talks about her joyful debut novel, which has dominated this year's bestseller lists. "Uncommonly intelligent and sympathetic," *The Scotsman*. [181]

6PM
Malachi O'Doherty
Gerry Adams: An Unauthorised Life
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 How did Gerry Adams grow from a revolutionary street activist into the leader of Sinn Féin, with intimate access to the British and Irish Prime Ministers and the US President? Drawing on new intelligence and scores of exclusive interviews, Malachi O'Doherty's biography sheds light on this extraordinary shape-shifter. [182]
7.30PM
Stuart Kelly's Literary Pub Quiz
 Craft, South Main Street | £2
 Stuart Kelly sets the questions once more for the infamous pub quiz. [183]
Supported by Craft Hotel

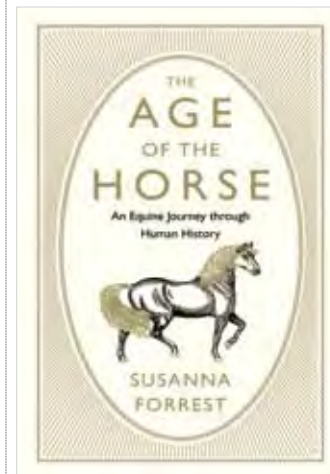
7.30PM
THEATRE
Lucy, Lucy and Lucy Barfield
 Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £12
 Lucy's just realised that Narnia doesn't exist. She's 26. But if the adventures of heroine Lucy Pevensie can't guide her through the real world, perhaps CS Lewis's dedication to his goddaughter, Lucy Barfield, may lead to another wardrobe. Repeated Weds. [184]

7.30PM
FILM
Persepolis
 County Buildings, Cinema | £6
 Based on Marjane Satrapi's graphic novel, this acclaimed animated feature from 2007 follows a young girl as she comes of age in the Iranian Revolution. Cert 15. 91 min. [185]

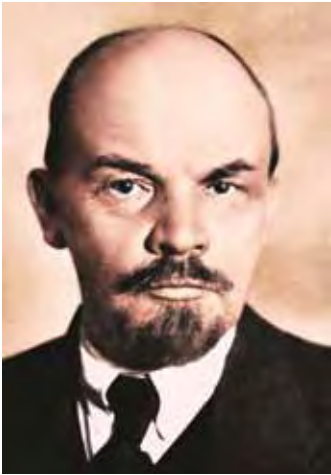


Persepolis, 7.30pm, Tuesday 26 September

7.30PM
COMEDY
Jim Smith
The Standup Farmer
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £7
 A sell-out performer on the Edinburgh fringe, Perthshire comedian Jim Smith isn't afraid to say how rural folk really see the world. Join him as he reveals the perils of internet dating in areas of low population and what Brexit means for the price of scones. [186]
Sponsored by I Fisher
9.30PM
Book at Bedtime
The Open Book | free
 Bedtime readings inspired by the festival's themes. Hot chocolate provided. Bring your own pyjamas. [187]




Susanna Forrest, 3pm, Tuesday 26 September



Victor Sebestyen, 10.30am, Wednesday 27 September


9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST
The Chat Show
PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
Start the day with music and chat from The Bookshop Band. Which guests are on the sofa today? Free coffee and pastries. (45 min). [188]

10.30AM
 **Victor Sebestyen**
Lenin the Dictator:
An Intimate Portrait
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Victor Sebestyen talks about his new biography, the first major work in English about the Bolshevik leader for more than two decades. He reveals a different character from the coldly one-dimensional figure of legend. This is a Lenin who loved nature almost as much as he loved revolution and whose closest friendships and most passionate relationships – including the long-suppressed ménage à trois with his wife and mistress – were with women. As a journalist, Victor Sebestyen covered the wars in former Yugoslavia and the breakup of the Soviet Union. “Excellent, original and compelling,” Simon Sebag Montefiore. [189]
Sponsored by J & BM Darlington

12 NOON
Bijan Omrani
Caesar’s Footprint
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
In this illustrated talk, historian and classicist Bijan Omrani follows in the footsteps of Julius Caesar’s brutal war against the tribes of Gaul, a campaign that destroyed much of the ancient Celtic culture yet also arguably left the foundations for what we know as modern European civilisation, as local tribes exchanged tribal quarrels for togas. From language to law, government to architecture, nothing would ever be the same again. [190]
Sponsored by Random Book Club

1.30PM
Neil McIntyre & Polly Pullar
The Red Squirrel
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Photographer Neil McIntyre has been taking pictures of red squirrels for 30 years and reckons he has spent more time with them than with humans. For his new book, he has teamed up with the nature writer Polly Pullar to celebrate one of our best loved native species, under threat from its grey rivals and a scarcity of woodland. This illustrated talk will change for ever the way you see the red squirrel. “One of the most beautiful books that has ever landed on my desk – a true work of art,” George Monbiot. [191]
Sponsored by Colin Tennant Photography

1.30PM
TEA
Natalie Fergie
The Sewing Machine
McNeillie Tent | £6
Beginning in 1911, as workers at the Singer Factory in Glasgow prepare to strike, Natalie Fergie’s moving debut tells the story of a family through one sewing machine passed through the generations. Join her for a cup of tea and a yarn as she unpicks the story of her original family saga stitch by stitch. [192]
Sponsored by Upland CIC

2PM
 **An Ancient Wander**
Torhouse Stone Circle | £6
James Canton’s new book *Ancient Wonderings* finds him going in search of Britain’s prehistoric places and people. The writer invites you to join him on an informal walk imagining ancient Wigtownshire. He teaches on the Wild Writing MA course at the University of Essex. Approx 2 hours. [193]


3PM
Catherine Blyth
On Time: Finding Your Pace in a World Addicted to Fast
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Objectively people have more time than ever: if we are lucky, we might expect 1000 months on the planet. So why do we often feel time-poor? Catherine Blyth decided to find out. Looking to neuroscience and psychology, as well as to individuals such as Aristotle to Usain Bolt, she offers insights into how to make time your servant, not your master. [194]
Sponsored by Baillie Gifford



Natalie Fergie, 1.30pm, Wednesday 27 September



4.30PM
Richard Demarco
The Edinburgh Festival: 70 Not Out
McNeillie Tent | £6
The Edinburgh Festival began in 1947, with the aim of turning the city into “the cultural resort of Europe”. Legendary arts impresario and artist Richard Demarco has, incredibly, attended every festival since. He talks about the remarkable changes he has seen. [196]

6PM
 **THEATRE**
Four Revolutions
The Print Room | free
Join us for rehearsed readings of four short plays about change and protest, by David Blain, Debbie Baker, Vivien Jones and Carolyn Yates. Directed by Mark Alexander of Theatre Royal Dumfries. [197]

6PM
 **Helen Bagnall**
Mind Games
McNeillie Tent | £6
Based on Redstone Press’s *PsychoBook*, *Mind Games* is an exhilaratingly interactive hour that will lead you on a whirlwind tour of the history of psychological testing. Discover how the study of the mind was revolutionised in the 20th century

as you take part in vintage and modern mind games and perhaps even discover what you really want from life. Hosted by Helen Bagnall, cultural curator of Salon London. [198]

7.30PM
The Midge
Spice & Cheese, Pop Up Bar | £3
The Midge is The Moth’s smaller, cheekier (and completely unofficial) cousin, a storytelling event that welcomes all-comers. Come and just listen over a drink or spin a yarn yourself. This year’s theme: “The Moment Things Changed”. [199]

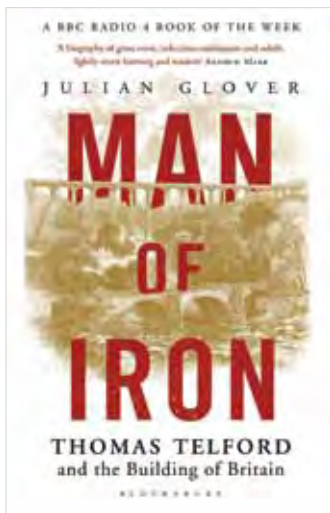
7.30PM
The Stables Dinner
Home Farm, Garlieston | £35
Join us in Galloway House’s former stables for a three-course supper with a literary garnish. [200]

7.30PM
THEATRE
Lucy, Lucy and Lucy Barfield
Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £12
A show about finding the real Lucy from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. See Tues, 7.30pm. [201]

9.30PM
Book at Bedtime
The Open Book | free
Let us tell you a story - with hot chocolate. [202]



Catherine Blyth, 3pm, Wednesday 27 September



Julian Glover, 10.30am, Thursday 28 September

9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST
Catherine Blyth
A Conversation about Conversation
PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
How can we get more from conversations? What can history teach us about the way we talk to one another? Chat over coffee and pastries. [203]



10.30AM
Julian Glover
Man of Iron
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Thomas Telford's constructions were the greatest for a thousand years, and almost all still stand today. So how did a poor shepherd's boy from Eskdale become the greatest engineer in Britain's history? A former speechwriter for David Cameron and *Guardian* leader writer, Julian Glover discusses the quiet radical who transformed the nation. "Brings back to vivid life a man who should never have been forgotten," Andrew Marr. [204]
Sponsored by Hazel J L Smith Chartered Architect



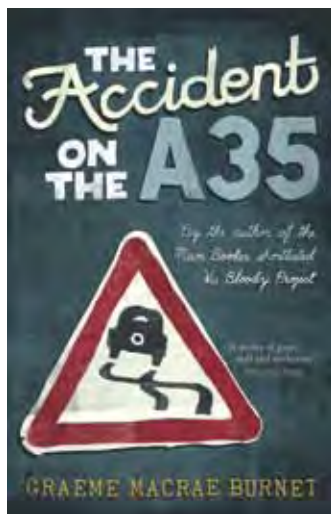
12 NOON
A Short Walk with Cows

Home Farm, Garlieston | £5

Join the author of *The Secret Life of Cows*, **Rosamund Young**, to observe close up some of the inhabitants of this Galloway dairy farm and learn about their surprising social and emotional lives. You are guaranteed never to look at cattle in the same way again. Approx 60 min. [205]

12 NOON
Graeme Macrae Burnet
The Accident on the A35

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Graeme Macrae Burnet gives a sneak preview of his new literary mystery that will beguile fans of the Booker Prize-shortlisted *His Bloody Project* and *The Disappearance of Adèle Bedeau*. Darkly funny, subtle and sophisticated, *The Accident on the A35* burrows deep into the psyches of its characters as it explores the hidden corners of small-town France. [206]
Sponsored by Elmlea Plants



Graeme Macrae Burnet, 12 noon, Thursday 28 September



1.30PM
Rachel Hewitt
A Revolution of Feeling: The Decade That Forged The Modern Mind

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
After the French Revolution, as idealism gave way to terror, Britain's radicals swapped joy for disillusionment. Figures such as the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge and the philosopher Mary Wollstonecraft were crushed to find themselves on history's wrong side. Rachel Hewitt talks to *Stuart Kelly* about her brilliant new book about the end of the Enlightenment – and how an epic decade revolutionised the way we think about feelings and emotions. [207]

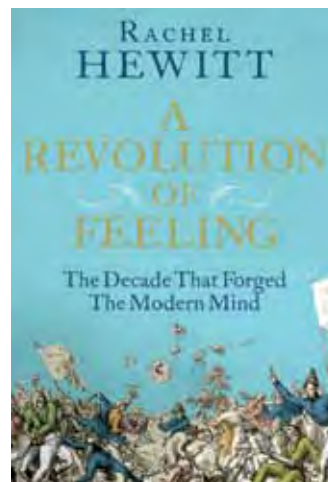
3PM
John Lister-Kaye
The Dun Cow Rib: A Very Natural Childhood

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
One of Britain's leading naturalists, Sir John Lister-Kaye talks about his beautiful new memoir. *The Dun Cow Rib* is the story of a boy waking up to the natural world, and a long-gone childhood spent scrambling through hedges, tracking foxes and keeping pigeons. Interwoven with his adventures – from working with Gavin Maxwell to founding the Aigas Field Centre – is an elegy to a remarkable mother, and a wise and affectionate celebration of wild Britain. [208]
Sponsored by Kirroughtree House Hotel

3PM
TEA
Kaite Welsh
The Wages of Sin

McNeillie Tent | £6
Edinburgh, 1892. Sarah Gilchrist is one of the university's first medical students. Patronised by her male lecturers and rejected as a "fallen woman" by her female peers, she is drawn into an underworld of bribery, brothels and body snatchers. Join Kaite Welsh over a cup of tea to discuss her rip-roaring debut. [209]

4.30PM
Rodric Braithwaite
Armageddon and Paranoia
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Sir Rodric Braithwaite brings to life the tale of nuclear escalation between the great powers after 1945. It is, he suggests, a story with few villains. Instead politicians, scientists and military men were driven by a toxic combination of duty and paranoia, a situation which still offers lessons today. The speaker was British Ambassador in Moscow. He is author of the bestselling *Afgantsy*. [210]
Sponsored by XtraStep Ltd



Rachel Hewitt, 1.30pm, Thursday 28 September

4.30PM
InnovateLiterature
McNeillie Tent | free
Join us for this session, run by VisitScotland, showcasing some of the most exciting and innovative developments in Scotland's literary scene. [211]

6PM
Helen Bagnall
Conversation & Cocktails
Spice & Cheese, Pop Up Bar | £6
Join us for a conversation with a difference inspired by the scholar Theodore Zeldin's Conversation Menu, which aims to encourage real communication between strangers. Choose from a conversational menu of starters, main courses and desserts, then feast on talk. Helen Bagnall of Salon London hosts. Cocktails from Crafty Gin. [212]

7.30PM
COMEDY
Natalie Haynes
Honour Among Thebes
County Buildings, Main Hall | £8
The comedian and star of the BBC Radio 4 series, *Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics* takes us on a tour of the earliest Greek tragedies and comedies. From history's first performance by Thespis to the raucous sex-strike of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, ancient history has never been so much fun. [213]



Natalie Haynes, 7.30pm, Thursday 28 September



Kaite Welsh, 3pm, Thursday 28 September

7.30PM
THEATRE
Mrs Roosevelt Flies to London

Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £12
Alison Skilbeck's one-woman show about the remarkable First Lady. See Friday 30 Sep, 7.30pm. [214]



7.30PM
FILM
A Tale of Two Cities

County Buildings, Cinema | £6
Dirk Bogarde plays Sidney Carton, the louche English lawyer drawn into the French Revolution, in Ralph Thomas's 1958 adaptation. Cert U. 106 min. [215]

8PM
Behind the Scenes at The Bookshop

The Bookshop | free
The *Diary of a Bookseller* brought to life. For details, see Monday 25 Sep, 7.30pm. [216]

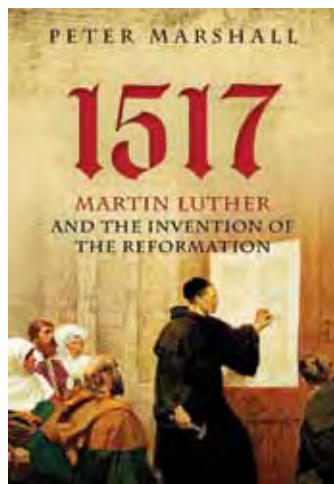
9.30PM
Book at Bedtime

The Open Book | free
Let us tell you a story – with hot chocolate. [217]

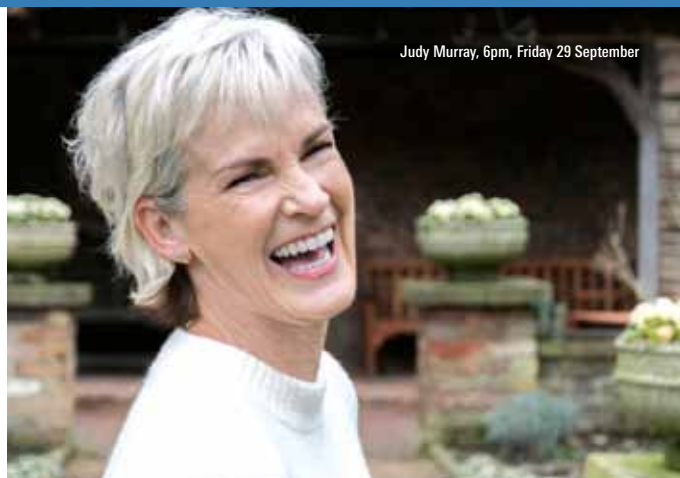
10.30AM-4.30PM
The Travelling Gallery
 North Main Street | free
 Look out for the Travelling Gallery, an art gallery in a bus, which will be parked at the festival today and tomorrow with an exhibition by the artist Lauren Printy Currie, following her recent residency at Glasgow Women's Library.

9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST
The Chat Show
 PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
 Start the day with music and chat from The Bookshop Band. Free coffee and pastries. (45 min). [218]
By kind permission of ReadingLasses

10.30AM
 **Peter Marshall**
1517: Martin Luther and the Invention of the Reformation
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 Martin Luther pinning his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on 31 October 1517 is one of the most famous events of Western history – the act that supposedly launched the Reformation



Peter Marshall, 10.30am, Friday 29 September



Judy Murray, 6pm, Friday 29 September

and has for centuries been a symbol of religious freedom of conscience. But did it really happen? Peter Marshall looks at myth and reality, and asks how the figure of Luther has been interpreted by generations of Protestant thinkers. [219]

10.30AM
Caroline Young
Tartan & Tweed
 The Print Room | £6
 Tartan and tweed cross all boundaries, adored by crofters, aristocrats and fashion-lovers across the world. Caroline Young, author of *Style Tribes*, presents an illustrated talk about her beautiful and revealing new book. Written with Ann Martin, it offers fascinating insights into the history and cultural significance of two quintessentially Scottish fabrics. [220]

12 NOON
Natalie Haynes
The Children of Jocasta
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 In *The Children of Jocasta*, Natalie Haynes takes a fresh look at an ancient story, re-imagining in gripping prose how the Oedipus and Antigone stories would look if the female characters took centre stage. Natalie Haynes is a broadcaster and writer, whose books include *The Amber*



Douglas Murray, 4.30pm, Friday 29 September

Fury, shortlisted for the Scottish Crime Book of the Year award. [221]
Sponsored by Cobwebs

12 NOON
POETRY **Mind the Time**
 McNeillie Tent | £6
 Join us for an hour of new poetry about football. *Mind the Time* is an anthology published to raise money for Football Memories Scotland, a pioneering Alzheimer's charity that works with football fans. All of the poems draw on the core theme of triggering memory of the "good old

days" whether that is of a match, a team or a specific player. [222]

12 NOON
Cream o' Galloway Farm Visit
 Cream o' Galloway, Rainton near Gatehouse of Fleet | £6
 A producer of organic ice cream and now cheese, Cream o' Galloway is pioneering "calf at foot" dairy farming, which allows dairy cows to suckle their calves directly. This farm visit offers an insight into this innovative approach to animal welfare. [223]
Supported by Cream o' Galloway

1.30PM
Michael Brooks
The Quantum Astrologer's Handbook
 McNeillie Tent | £6
 One of our finest science writers resurrects the amazing story of Jerome Cardano. Born in 16th-century Milan to a brothel keeper and a lawyer, Cardano was a gambler, doctor and astrologer to emperors and popes. But he was also incredibly, Brooks argues, the inventor of the mathematics behind quantum physics. Michael Brooks is a journalist and broadcaster. His previous books include the bestselling non-fiction title *13 Things That Don't Make Sense*. [224]

3PM
 **Mike Rapport**
Rebel Cities: Paris, London and New York in the Age of Revolution
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 As political and intellectual revolution shook the world in the 18th- and 19th- centuries, cities became laboratories for change. Mike Rapport, a reader in modern European history at the University of Glasgow, transports us to three of the west's great metropolises. In sensory detail, he reveals a world in which

3PM
 **A Silent Walk**
 Meet Wood of Cree | £6
 Join **Sara Maitland**, the author of *The Book of Silence*, an exploration of the power and pleasures of silence, for a wordless walk. Find stillness amid the bustle of the week and make space for reflection before celebrating together at the end of the afternoon. Approx two hours. [225]

corruption and idealism, slavery and vast wealth rubbed shoulders, paving the way for all we know today. [226]
Sponsored by Krista Robertson Design

4.30PM
 **Douglas Murray**
The Strange Death of Europe: Immigration, Identity, Islam
 County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
 Douglas Murray believes Europe is in the act of committing cultural suicide, driven to its knees by mass immigration, self-hatred and a lack of self-confidence. Reporting from around the continent – from Greece to Scandinavia, Lampedusa to Berlin – he asks: why would any civilisation do this to itself? "Disagree passionately if you will, but you won't regret reading it," *Literary Review* [227]

4.30PM
TEA **For the Love of Anne of Green Gables**
 McNeillie Tent | £5
 In 1908, Lucy Maud Montgomery published a story about a young girl mistakenly sent to live on a Canadian farm. Since then, *Anne of Green Gables* has sold more than 50 million copies and spawned endless adaptations, most recently a series on Netflix. Come and celebrate a love affair with the orphan of Avonlea. Authors **Jessica Fox** and **Chitra Ramaswamy** and former Edinburgh Film Festival director **Hannah McGill** join *Lee Randall* to discuss. [228]



Michael Brooks, 1.30pm, Friday 29 September



Caroline Young, 10.30am, Friday 29 September



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6PM

Judy Murray

Knowing the Score: My Family and Our Tennis Story
Festival Marquee | £10

Over three decades, Judy Murray has been a rock for her Grand Slam winning sons, Jamie and Andy, while becoming one of the most respected coaches and influencers in British sport. But it hasn't always been easy. She talks about her frank memoir, which charts the challenges she has faced on the journey from Dunblane parks to the players' box on Wimbledon's Centre Court. [229]

Sponsored by Galloway House Estate



6PM

Tom Devine & Angela McCarthy

Tea and Empire

McNeillie Tent | £6

Join Scotland's leading historian Professor Sir Tom Devine and the renowned emigration scholar Professor Angela McCarthy as they explore the hidden histories of Scots in Asia, including some surprising tales of tea and opium. Central to their narrative is James Taylor of Kincardineshire, who pioneered the global popularity of Ceylon tea before dying in disgrace. [230]

Sponsored by The Bookshop

7.30PM

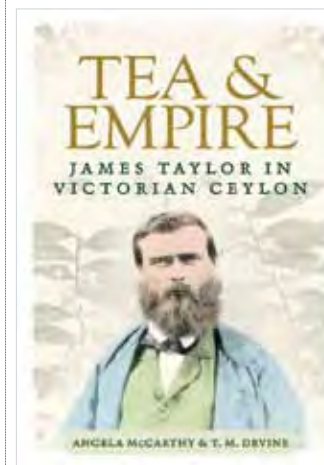
MUSIC

Cairn Valley Song Cycle

County Buildings, Main Hall | £7

As part of its Creative Places Award, Moniaive Festival Village commissioned seven UK composers, some local and some internationally acclaimed, to respond musically and vocally to the rich landscape and sense of community in the Cairn Valley. The Cairn Chorus will bring this beautifully diverse song cycle to life accompanied by local and professional musicians, including Wendy Stewart, Gavin Marwick and Ali Burns. Directed by Kate Howard. [231]

Cairn Valley Song Cycle, 7.30pm, Friday 29 September



Tom Devine & Angela McCarthy, 6pm, Friday 29 September

7.30PM

Mass Interaction

Zeroing in on Nothingness

Spice & Cheese, Pop Up Bar | £6

Mass Interaction is an informal evening that celebrates science in interesting and accessible ways. To mark the event's first birthday, we zero in on nothingness with quantum physicist **Michael Brooks** and mathematician and broadcaster **Timandra Harkness**. You think you know nothing. But how did the concept of zero emerge? Can true "nothingness" ever exist in a quantum world? And how can understanding the nature of nothing lead to a clearer picture of the universe. [232]

7.30PM

THEATRE

Mrs Roosevelt Flies to London

Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £12

In October 1942, Eleanor Roosevelt travelled to wartime London to visit US troops and see how British women were coping. Granted special permission to use Eleanor's writings, Alison Skilbeck explores the public and hidden life of the remarkable First Lady. 75 minutes followed by optional post-show discussion. [233]



7.30PM

Mostly Ghostly

Sorbie Tower By Night

Sorbie Tower | £8

The ancestral seat of the Clan Hannay, Sorbie Tower is steeped in legends. Woven between accounts of its gripping history, the team from the award-winning Mostly Ghostly reveals a spine-tingling side to this 16th-century tower house. Strange lights and a lady in grey feature among the haunting reports, while tales from nearby include phantom hitchhikers and a tragic wedding night. [234]

Sponsored by Visit South West Scotland

9.30PM

Book at Bedtime

The Open Book | free

Let us tell you a story – with hot chocolate. [235]

10AM-4PM

WagTongues

Bowling Pavilion | free
WagTongues is a pop-up bookshop run by D&G Writers' Collective to provide a showcase and sales outlet for the region's writers. Drop in to browse and for fringe events and activities. Find more details at www.wagtongues.wordpress.com.

9.30AM

TALKING BREAKFAST

Europeans in Britain

PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
What does it feel like to be an EU national living in the UK following the vote to leave? Share your thoughts or listen. Coffee and pastries included. Because Brexit means breakfast. [236]



10.30AM

THE WHITHORN TRUST LECTURE

Ronan Toolis & Christopher Bowles

The Lost Dark Age Kingdom of Rheged

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Since medieval times, the location of the Dark Age kingdom of Rheged has been lost. Now new



Rachel McCormack, 3pm, Saturday 30 September



Denise Mina, 1.30pm, Saturday 30 September

archaeological evidence suggests that its royal hub was at Trusty's Hill near Gatehouse of Fleet, a centre of religious, cultural and political innovation. Ronan Toolis and Christopher Bowles, who oversaw the excavations, talk about a find that transforms our understanding of Galloway's past. [237]

10.30AM

Christopher Trotter

Meat and Two Veg
McNeillie Tent | £5

Leading Scottish food writer Christopher Trotter (*The Scottish Cookery Book*, *The Whole Cow*) offers a deliciously entertaining tour of the national diet, from Galloway beef to iconic veg. Who knew that kale features in the Great Tapestry of Scotland? Or that our carrots are orange because the Hanoverians imported varieties grown in support of William of Orange? [238]
Sponsored by Galloway Chillies

10.30AM

Jen Mouat & Shaun Bythell

How to Get Published

The Print Room | free
You wait years for a book set in Scotland's Booktown, then two come along at once. Shaun Bythell's *Diary of a Bookseller* recounts 12 months in



11.30AM-2PM

Café Morocco

PHC Room, ReadingLasses | free
This year's Upland artists-in-residence are storyteller **Mehdi El Ghaly** and photographer **Houssain Belabbes** from Morocco and their Scottish counterparts **Anne Errington** and **Laura Hudson Mackay**. Together they will be exploring storytelling traditions from the two countries. Drop in to the PHC Room behind ReadingLasses Bookshop and Café for some mint tea and hear – and maybe share – some yarns.

the life of a bookshop. Jen Mouat's *Summer at Bluebell Bank* is a breezy tale of love among the shelves. Two debut authors discuss the road to publication with literary agent **Jenny Brown**. Essential advice for aspiring writers. [239]

11AM

Glasgow Women's Library Workshop

Women's History Unwrapped
Baptist Church | free
Hear how Glasgow Women's Library celebrates the lives of women in Scotland and find out more about the artefacts at GWL

that inspired Lauren Printy Currie's exhibition for the Travelling Gallery. Try the women's history quiz, and get an idea on how to start up a women's heritage project in your community. Approx two hours. [240]

12 NOON

Jeremy Bowen

Our Man in the Middle East

County Buildings, Main Hall | £10
The BBC's Middle East editor has reported from and about the region for 25 years. He talks about his experiences and his epic personal radio history of that period, *Our Man in the Middle East*. [241]
Sponsored by Fight for Sight



12 NOON

A Homage to Catalonia

County Buildings | £6

On the eve of Catalonia's unofficial independence referendum, we explore what it really means to be Catalan, embarking on a joyful whistlestop of the nation's food, culture, history and, of course, a little politics. Leading the way are **Rachel McCormack**, BBC Radio 4 food panellist and Catalan cookery expert, and **Dr Irene Boada-Montagut**, who lectures in Spanish and Catalan at Queen's University, Belfast. [242]

12 NOON

Timandra Harkness

Big Data: Does Size Matter?
McNeillie Tent | £6

"Big Data" is one of the ideas of our times. Computers analysing vast quantities of information can tell with increasing accuracy what we like, who our friends are, how we're feeling and even when we're likely to die. So should we fear it as a tool of Big Brother or embrace its power to change the world? Presenter of BBC Radio 4's *FutureProofing*, Timandra Harkness finds the funny and revealing human stories behind

the jargon. [243]

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

12 NOON

POETRY Polly Atkin & Claire Askew

Basic Nest Architecture & this changes things

The Print Room | £6

Former Wigtown Poetry Prize-winner Polly Atkin presents her first full book, *Basic Nest Architecture*, a complex and lyrical collection heavily inspired by her Lake District home. She is joined by Claire Askew, whose *This changes things* was shortlisted for the 2016 Saltire Society First Book of the Year Award. [244]



Ian Cobain, 1.30pm, Saturday 30 September

1.30PM

Denise Mina

The Long Drop

Festival Marquee | £8

Since winning the John Creasy Dagger for Best First Crime Novel in 1998, Denise Mina has established herself as one of Scottish literature's most original and talented voices. Dame Denise's latest novel draws closely on the true story of serial killer Peter Manuel. In 1958, Manuel broke into a Glasgow villa, murdering three members of the Watt family. The father, William, was arrested but not charged. On his release, Manuel offered help to clear his name and the two men met in a bar and drank together for 12 hours. No one knows what happened that night. [245]
Sponsored by ReadingLasses

1.30PM

Ian Cobain

The History Thieves

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
In 1889, the first official secrets act was passed. Ian Cobain talks about his fascinating new book, which looks at how the British state has buried secrets ever since – from unreported wars, to collusion with terrorists and peacetime surveillance of citizens. The omissions, he argues, have left us with a distorted view of our own history. Ian Cobain is a reporter for *The Guardian*. He is a winner of the Paul Foot Award for investigative journalism. [246]



Jeremy Bowen, 12 noon, Saturday 30 September

LOUISE WELSH



NO DOMINION

Louise Welsh, 4.30pm, Saturday 30 September

1.30PM Andy Merrifield & Robert Twigger

Amateurs and Experts
McNeillie Tent | £6
Andy Merrifield believes modern life has been destroyed by professionals. In *The Amateur*, he argues that we need to rediscover the pleasure of doing things we love, rescuing them from box tickers, bean counters and pedants. Robert Twigger's *Micromastery* suggests that mastering a number of discrete, fun and varied skills will make us fearless learners and is a huge contribution to happiness. Two original thinkers – and doers – compare notes. [247]

Sponsored by The Bookshop

The Human Book

Look out for our Human Books in the Festival Bookshop throughout the day. A chance to meet some of the writers one-to-one. Roll a dice. Pick a topic from the menu provided and listen to a story. Or simply blether.

1.30PM

POETRY

The Judges' Jam

The Print Room | £6

A Dundonian, an American and a sometime Lewisman walk into a poetry event. It's no joke. Join the Scots, Scottish Gaelic and main competition judges of this year's Wigtown Poetry Competition – **Myles Campbell, Matthew Fitt and Ryan Van Winkle** – for an inspired hour of readings and chat. For more information about the individual judges and the competition, go to www.wigtownbookfestival.com. [248]

3PM

Bridget Kendall

The Cold War: A New Oral History of Life Between East and West

Festival Marquee | £8

The Cold War is one of modern history's furthest-reaching conflicts. It spanned the globe – from Greece to China, Hungary to Cuba – lasting almost half a century. And it shapes political relations to this day. Bridget Kendall talks about her meticulously researched book, which relies on the accounts of those who experienced it first-hand. The speaker was formerly the BBC's diplomatic correspondent. She is now the first female master of Peterhouse College, Cambridge. [249]

Sponsored by Montpelier Professional Galloway Ltd

3PM

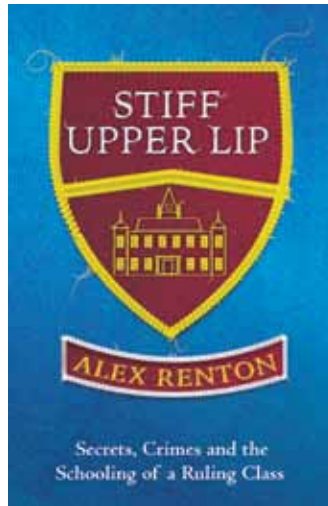
Rachel McCormack

Chasing the Dram

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Why doesn't Scotland use its national spirit in its food? Rachel McCormack believes that there's a kama sutra of whisky that's never been fully explored, so she set off round the country on an amber odyssey. A regular on BBC Radio 4's *The Kitchen Cabinet*, she tells *Lee Randall* about her very funny travelogue. "A brilliant book," Val McDermid [250]



Rick Edwards & Michael Brooks, 6pm, Saturday 30 September



Alex Renton, 3pm, Saturday 30 September

3PM

Alex Renton

Stiff Upper Lip

McNeillie Tent | £6

From Billy Bunter to Harry Potter, boarding schools have given rise to myths of glory, high jinks and suffering. But what's the reality? In this acclaimed social history, Alex Renton has revealed a terrifying and gripping story of cronyism, corruption and abuse that will interest anyone curious about what shaped many of the people who still run Britain. "Even if you never went near a public

school, the book is a phenomenal read," *Newstalk*. [251]



3PM

A Taste of Syria

PHC Room,

ReadingLasses | free (drop in)
Sample the rich culture of Syria in this very informal hour of food, poetry and conversation. Celebrate with some of the Syrian families who have made Dumfries & Galloway their home in the past year. [252]



4.30PM

Where Germany Leads

Festival Marquee | £6

What happens to Germany affects us all. Yet how much do we know of our neighbour's politics? In the week that Germans went to the polls, we ask what the new government will mean for Brexit. How is Berlin likely to shape a new Europe? And can it fill the void in international leadership left by the US? Our panel: **Sebastian Borger**, London Correspondent for *Berliner Zeitung*; **Marcus Brauckmann**, journalist and TV documentary maker; **Dr Imke Henkel**, Senior Lecturer in Journalism, University of Lincoln. Chaired by broadcaster **Andrew Cassell**. [253]

Wigtown Book Fes

4.30PM

Louise Welsh

The Plague Times Trilogy

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6

What would you do if civilisation collapsed? That is the question at the heart of Louise Welsh's superb Plague Times trilogy, which reaches a breathless climax with the publication of *No Dominion*. Seven years after a virus almost eradicated the population, life goes on for a small community in Orkney – only to be disrupted by the arrival of outsiders. Louise Welsh is the multiple award-winning author of eight novels including *The Cutting Room*, and is Professor of Creative Writing at Glasgow University. [254]

Sponsored by The Steam Packet Inn

4.30PM

Charlie English

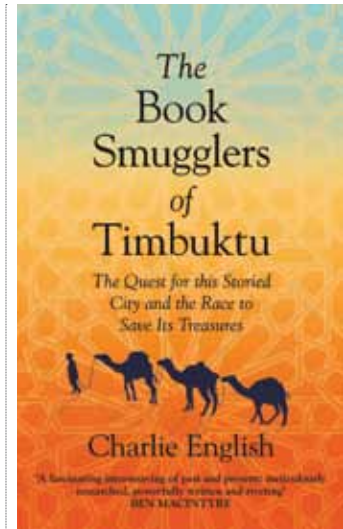
The Book Smugglers of Timbuktu

McNeillie Tent | £6

Charlie English talks about his highly-praised book which interweaves two thrilling stories – the race by explorers to reach one of the



Bridget Kendall, 3pm, Saturday 30 September



Charlie English, 4.30pm, Saturday 30 September

world's most mythologised places and the equally heroic tale of how a contemporary band of archivists and librarians fought to save some of the world's most important ancient manuscripts from destruction at the hands of al Qaeda. The writer is a former international editor of *The Guardian*. "Fascinating," *The Times*. "Riveting," *Sunday Telegraph*. "Brilliant," *The Economist*. [255]

4.30PM

MUSIC

Auricle Ensemble

Stravinsky's 'The Soldier's Tale'

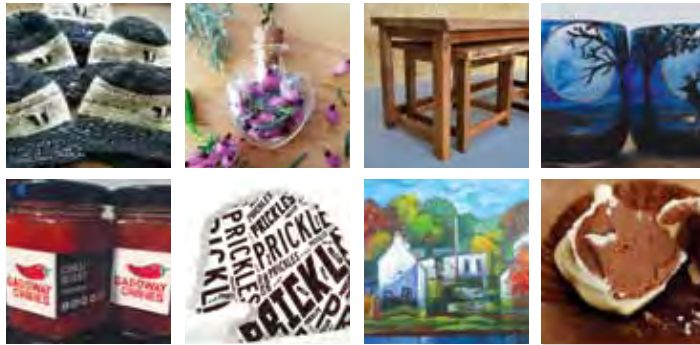
Sacred Heart Church | £7

The Glasgow-based chamber ensemble performs Stravinsky's suite *The Soldier's Tale*. Written at the end of the first world war, it tells the story of a soldier returning to his village who makes a bargain with the Devil. Catchy and disturbing, it was one of the first important classical works to reflect the influence of jazz. [256]

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Kirsty Muir Jewellery
Light and Colour Studio
Livin the Dream
Lynn Morley Stained Glass
Peter Wareing Ceramics
Red Squirrel Crafts
RSPB
Saucy Desserts
Scaur Glen Soaps
Scottish Art Scapes
Solway Silver Lampshades
Sulwath Brewers
The Butterfly and Toadstool
The Co Co Company
The Damn Fine Cheese Company
The Galloway Fudge Company
Wark Farm



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Davy Zyw, 7.30pm, Saturday 30 September



Martin Bell, 6pm, Saturday 30 September

6PM

Martin Bell

War and the Death of News

Festival Marquee | £9

Martin Bell has stood in war zones as both a soldier and a journalist. From Vietnam to Bosnia to Iraq, he has witnessed first-hand the dramatic changes in how conflicts are fought and reported. In this compelling new book, one of the outstanding journalists of our time provides a moving and deeply personal account of war and issues an impassioned call to put the substance back in our news coverage. [257]

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Wigtown Book Festival 2017



6PM

Science(ish) Live Gattaca

County Buildings, Main Hall | £6

Science(ish) is the hit podcast that explores science through fictional worlds. To mark the new *Science-ish* book, broadcaster **Rick Edwards** and *New Scientist's* **Michael Brooks** delve into the world of the classic sci-fi movie *Gattaca*. Are we more than our genes? And should we use technology to create the perfect human? *Gattaca* is shown at 7.30pm. [258]

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

6PM

Wigtown Poetry Competition 2017

The Print Room | free

Join us for readings and refreshments as **Ryan Van Winkle** announces the winner of Scotland's international poetry prize while **Matthew Fitt** and **Myles Campbell** reveal their selections in the Scots Language and Scottish Gaelic categories respectively. [259]

Supported by The Gaelic Books Council and Saltire Society

7.30PM

Davy Zyw

I Love Champagne

McNeillie Tent | £7

Davy Zyw is the youngest-ever British sommelier at the Roux Brothers'

restaurant Le Gavroche. He will take you on a tour of the best champagne houses of France – and the best champagnes on Britain's supermarket shelves. Bubbles included. [260]

7.30PM

POETRY

Stuart A Paterson

Looking South

The Print Room | £6

Stuart Paterson was recently appointed BBC Scotland's Poet in Residence. Join him to celebrate his first full-length collection for 20 years, *Looking South*, which takes inspiration from the people and language of south-west Scotland. [261]

7.30PM

THEATRE

Sing Me A Song!

Swallow Theatre, Ravenstone | £10

Follow Robert Louis Stevenson as he travels from his birthplace in Edinburgh to the Pacific. This show from acclaimed Australian performers Neil Adams and Judy Turner features the poetry of Stevenson set to music along with extracts from letters and diaries. 100 min with interval. [262]

7.30PM

FILM

Gattaca

County Buildings, Cinema | £6

A man steals the genes of a genetic "superior" in order to achieve his dream of space travel. 106 min. See also 6pm. [263]

8.45PM

The Festival Ceilidh

Festival Marquee | £5

Please join us for the final-weekend knees up. No dancing experience necessary. Everybody welcome. [264]

Sponsored by Merrick Real Estate

9.30PM

Book at Bedtime

The Open Book | free

Let us tell you a story – with hot chocolate. [265]



FIRE & LIGHT

A celebration of Fire and Light through talks and events in Wigtown, Scotland's National Book Town

25th - 26th November 2017

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Facebook page

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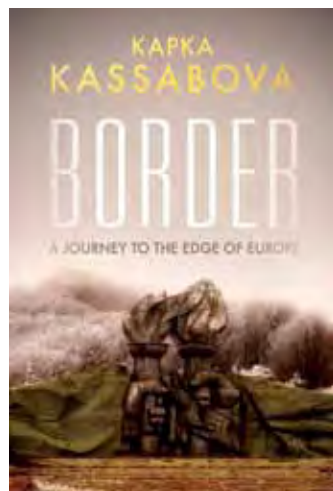
9.30AM
TALKING BREAKFAST
Christopher Trotter

On Pilgrimage
PHC Room, ReadingLasses | £5
At the age of 60, writer Christopher Trotter decided to walk from St Andrews to Iona, where his father had been a founder member of the Iona Community. In doing so, he aimed to mark a parent's life and reflect on his own. He considers why pilgrimage still matters with the writer **Sara Maitland**, who has been walking part of the pilgrim route from Glasgow to Whithorn. [266]

10.30AM
The Wigtown Debate
County Buildings, Main Hall | £5
Join us for a festival question time, with a panel of authors and special guests, to discuss issues of the moment – local, national and international. Submit your questions to claire@wigtownbookfestival.com. Chaired by journalist and broadcaster **Andrew Cassell**. [267]

10.30AM
Kenneth Steven
New Work: 2020 & Letting in the Light
The Print Room | £6
Kenneth Steven is best known for his poetry, inspired by the

landscapes of Argyll and the Highlands and by Celtic Christianity. But his new works break new ground. *Letting in the Light* addresses the end of a marriage, while his new novel, *2020*, asks what will happen "to empathy and tolerance, to generosity of spirit" in a "sorely divided" near-future UK? He talks about the threads that bind his work. [268]



Kapka Kassabova, 12 noon, Sunday 1 October

12 NOON
Tom Devine
Scotland, Slavery and Amnesia

Festival Marquee | £8
For a very long time it was believed that Scotland had little or no involvement in the transatlantic slave trade. Scotland's preeminent historian Professor Sir Tom Devine discusses recent research, which shows that cosy assumption to be based on myth rather than reality. He also considers why the harsh truth of the Scottish role in slavery has been lost to history until the last few years. [269]

12 NOON
Philip Ardagh
The World of Moominvalley
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Inspired by her own life and loves, as well as her experience of the second world war, Tove Jansson's Moomin books are loved by millions of children and adults alike. Philip Ardagh tells the story of the great Finnish writer and illustrator and her loveable creations, as he launches the ultimate guide to all things Moomin, written with Frank Cottrell Boyce. [270]



Alan Johnson, 1.30pm, Sunday 1 October



Debi Gliori, 1.30pm, Sunday 1 October

12 NOON
Kapka Kassabova
Border: A Journey to the Edge of Europe
McNeillie Tent | £6

Thracian kings and Balkan mystics, Nazi soldiers and spies have all left marks on the borderland between Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece. During the Cold War, it was a popular illegal crossing point to the West. Today it's the EU's frontier. Shortlisted for the Gordon Burn Prize, *Border* is a dazzling portrait of "one of history's well-worn playgrounds" and a meditation on the borders between all cultures. "Every bit as good as the writing of Patrick Leigh Fermor," *The Times*. [272]
Sponsored by Baillie Gifford

1.30PM
Alan Johnson
The Long and Winding Road
Festival Marquee | £9

From the slums of West London to the corridors of Westminster, Alan Johnson's life is a remarkable tale of social mobility and determination. The former Home Secretary talks about his award-winning memoirs, the third volume of which finds him entering Parliament in 1997. It was a culture shock. As Tony Blair famously said to



Mary Contini, 3pm, Sunday 1 October



Philip Ardagh, 12noon, Sunday 1 October

him: "Oh, so you really are working class." [273]
Sponsored by Allan McDowall Electrical

1.30PM
Debi Gliori
Night Shift
The Print Room | £6

Night Shift is a pioneering and beautiful new picture book exploring depression, aimed at adults and young people and written by one of Scotland's leading children's authors, Debi Gliori (*No Matter What*). The tale of a young girl fighting dragons at night, it draws deeply on the author's personal experiences. The author talks to *Lee Randall* about what led her to write it and her own strategies for dragon-slaying. "A masterpiece," David Walliams. [274]

1.30PM
Ralph Jessop
Thomas Carlyle's The French Revolution
McNeillie Tent | £6

Written in 1837, Carlyle's masterwork influenced an entire generation's view of the French Revolution, inspired Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* and challenged the rules for writing history. In the last of our "Revolutions" series, Ralph Jessop, senior lecturer at Glasgow University, talks to *Stuart Kelly* about the influence of the Ecclefechan-born genius. [275]

3PM
Mary Contini
Dear Alfonso
Festival Marquee | £7

In her inimitable style, Mary Contini follows the life of her father-in-law, from wartime Italy to 1950s Edinburgh, where he would meet Olivia Crolla and marry into her family business, the now feted delicatessen Valvona & Crolla. An incredible tale of poverty, adventure and survival, it's as full →

WALKING TALKING
11AM-3.40PM, ON THE HOUR
Walking with Writers

Meet outside County Buildings | free (collection for Fight for Sight)
Join festival speakers on short informal walks around Wigtown. A chance to reflect on what you've seen and heard, stretch your legs and free the mind. No need to book. Simply meet outside the County Buildings five minutes before the hour. [271]

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DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY **Art Live** farnham maltings

Brilliance
light for a winter's night

Thu 30 Nov 7:30pm
County Buildings
Wigtown DG8 9JH

a new play for village halls

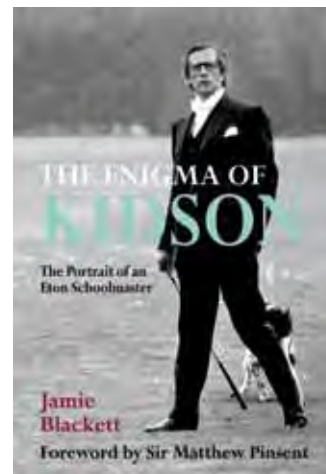
The company that brought It's A Wonderful Life, The Iranian Feast and Yorgjin Oxo, now bring Brilliance: a show with music made especially for village halls

Tickets £12/U26 £6 from the Midsteeple Box Office 01387 253383;
Wigtown Festival Office 01988 403222 or online at www.dgartslive.org.uk

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY **Art Festival**

The 2018 Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival takes place between 25 May and 3 June

Ken Ilgunas, 3pm, Sunday 1 October



Jamie Blackett, 4.30pm, Sunday 1 October

of laughter, love, food, and friendship as her previous bestsellers, *Dear Francesca* and *Dear Olivia*. [276]

Sponsored by Five Kingdoms Brewery

3PM
THE MCNEILLIE LECTURE
Erlend Clouston

Celebrating Nan Shepherd
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Scottish novelist, poet and nature writer Nan Shepherd is the woman who features on the new Royal Bank of Scotland five-pound note. In this event, Shepherd's literary

executor and family friend, Erlend Clouston, considers the work of this Modernist writer who, throughout her work, explored the landscape of her native country, its rural life and weather. Named in honour of John McNeillie, author of *The Wigtown Ploughman*, the annual McNeillie Lecture celebrates writing about Scotland's countryside. [277]

3PM
Trespassing Across America
McNeillie Tent | £6

In 2012, the Canadian-born writer Ken Ilgunas chose to walk 1,700 miles across America's heartland following the proposed route of the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline, a journey undertaken almost wholly on private land. In *Trespassing Across America*, he recounts his incredible journey, the colourful and sometimes alarming people he met, and the hardships he faced. And he asks: what is our responsibility as stewards of the land and the planet? [278]

4.30PM
Jamie Blackett
The Enigma of Kidson
County Buildings, Main Hall | £6
Jamie Blackett presents his brilliant and hilarious portrait of an eccentric

Sunday 1 October

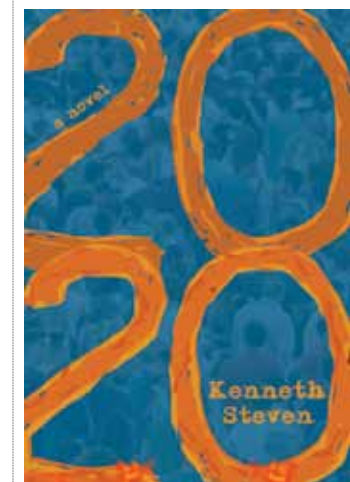
schoolmaster. Michael Kidson possessed a silly walk, a smelly spaniel, distaste for authority and a capacity for breathtaking rudeness. But he was beloved by his pupils, among them Steve Pinsent, Justin Welby and David Cameron (whose top grade in A-level history Kidson described as "among the most inexplicable events in modern history.") Through Kidson's oddly moving life story, Blackett offers a vivid history of a rapidly retreating age and a reflection on what education really means. [279]

Sponsored by R & M Wilcox

4.30PM
Ted Cowan
Galloway in the World
The Print Room | £6

Galloway has often been thought of as a backwater, both by Gallovidians and people outside. But is it entirely true? Glasgow University's emeritus Professor of Scottish History and Literature, Ted Cowan, looks at how immigrants have through history transformed the region and how Galloway's people have, in turn, exerted their influence on the wider world. [280]

Sponsored by Galloway Heathers



Kenneth Steven, 10.30am, Sunday 1 October

Wigtown Book Festival 2017

wigtownbookfestival.com

Wigtown Book Festival 2017 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME



Dr Christoph Englert, 7.30pm, Friday 29 September

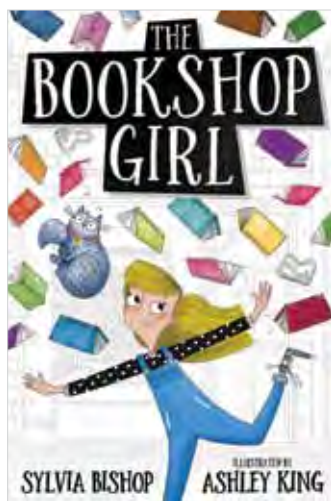
Day Tickets

Children's Festival family tickets are available for £20 per day. A day ticket permits entry for up to five family members, including a maximum of two adults. To guarantee availability for specific events, day ticket holders must also reserve seats.

SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

Mosyard Farm Pottery

Wigtown Primary, Activity Room
10am-4pm | pottery ranges
£4-£15 | family drop in
Paint your own ceramic figurine with **Amy McConchie**. Lots of fun characters to choose from and take home. [C01]



Sylvia Bishop, 4pm, Saturday 23 September



Alan Windram, 2.30pm, Saturday 23 September

Tony Bonning

Dumfries & Galloway Folk Tales
Wigtown Primary, The Hall
10am | £3.50 | 8+
Hear legends of the strange beasts and folk of Dumfries & Galloway. Among the stories Tony reveals men and women capable of tricking the Devil himself, and the tale that inspired Robert Burns' *Tam o' Shanter*. [C02]

Alan MacDonald Dirty Bertie!

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
11.30am | £3.50 | 6-9
The boy with the disgusting habits returns. Why are bogies green? Are boys smellier than girls? Do teachers fart? Explore what's happening right under your nose in *My Burptastic Body* and laugh as Bertie accompanies Angelina Nicely to the school disco. [C03]

Tom Palmer Defenders

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
11.30am | £3.50 | 8+
Seth can see the past: his town is in turmoil as a long-forgotten Viking massacre causes chaos. Can he and Nadiya discover what's attacking their town and how to stop it? [C04]

Mairi Hedderwick Katie Morag

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
1pm | £3.50 | 5+
Let your imagination sail to the island of Struay, home of Katie Morag. Whether she's posting parcels to the wrong addresses or helping Grannie Island with her prize-winning sheep, Katie is always up to something. [C05]
Sponsored by Allan McDowall Electrical

Abie Longstaff How To Catch a Witch

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
1pm | £3.50 | 9+
Abie Longstaff introduces tales of witchcraft and ancient traditions in her new fantasy series, *How To Catch A Witch*. As the battle of good versus evil begins, Charlie needs a witch's help to break an ancient curse. Cue spells, potions and an unlikely magical friendship. [C06]

Alan Windram One Button Benny

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
2.30pm | £3.50 | 3-6
Benny is a special robot. A single red button sits in the middle of his stomach. Benny has never known what the words "Only Press In An Emergency" mean. But one day he is forced to find out. [C07]

Veronica Cossanteli The Halloweeds

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
2.30pm | £3.50 | 10+
When their parents don't make it back from the jungle, Dan, Martha and baby Grub are sent to live with Great-Aunt Grusilla. In this riotous adventure, Dan sets out to find out why she and her servants are all

missing a finger. What does it have to do with the greedy Cabbages in the graveyard garden greenhouse? Perfect for Roald Dahl fans. [C08]

Abie Longstaff Superhero Hotel

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | £3.50 | under 5
Even superheroes need somewhere to hang out after a tough day saving the world. But they create chaos when they try to help out at the top-secret Superhero Hotel. Can they work together to make things right? [C09]

Sylvia Bishop The Bookshop Girl

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
4pm | £3.50 | 8+
After Property Jones's parents enter a competition to win the most magnificent bookshop in the world, she finds herself living in the magical Montgomery Book Emporium with an ill-tempered cat and an enormous secret – Property can't read. [C10]
Sponsored by Curly Tale Books



Abie Longstaff, 4pm, Saturday 23 September

Tuck in Tales

Curly Tale Books
5.30pm | free | Fri, Sat & Sun each weekend
Pop on your pyjamas, bring your favourite teddy and snuggle down for a pre-bedtime story.

AROUND the CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

The Reading Barn

Bring a favourite book and relax on a bale of straw in the outdoor reading barn with some cuddly farmyard friends.

Spot the Cats

Follow the map around town and identify the famous literary cats in each window. Maps available from the Box Office, Number 11 North Main Street and Children's Festival foyer (weekends).

Muddy Farm Kitchen

Mud pies, slimy soup and worm spaghetti. Visit the mud kitchen and create your own disgusting dishes from inedible natural ingredients. Old clothes advised. Weekends only.

Ticketing policy

Under-12s must be accompanied by a ticket-buying adult. Under-2s who do not need a seat are free. Ages in listings are for guidance only.

Photography

Photographs may be taken throughout the festival and used in future publicity. No unofficial photography is permitted at events.

Children's Festival Planning is supported by

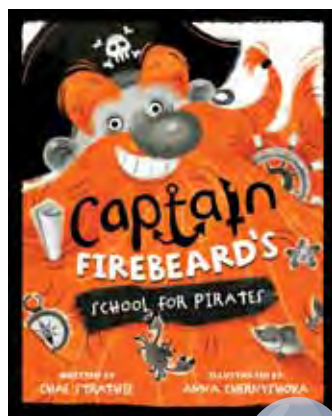
Jayne Baldwin, Renita Boyle, Joyce Cochrane, Grace Crichton, Matt Kitson, Marie McCann, Kelly Milven, Cora Sharp, Sarah Stewart

2017 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

Mossyard Farm Pottery

Wigtown Primary, Activity Room
10am-4pm | pottery ranges
£4-£15 | family drop in
Paint your own ceramic figurine
with **Amy McConchie**. Lots of
fun characters to choose from
and take home. [C11]



Chae Strathie, 10am, Sunday 24 September

Chae Strathie Captain Firebeard's School for Pirates

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
10am | £3.50 | 6+
Captain Firebeard is back in Wigtown
to share swashbuckling adventures
from his pirate school. Something
fishy has been going on aboard the
Rusty Barnacle. It's time to solve the
mystery of the sweet-stealing culprit.
But can you make a sea monster walk
the plank? [C12]

Maz Evans

Who Let the Gods Out?

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
10am | £3.50 | 9+
Elliot's life changes when a shooting
star crashes to earth. As a death

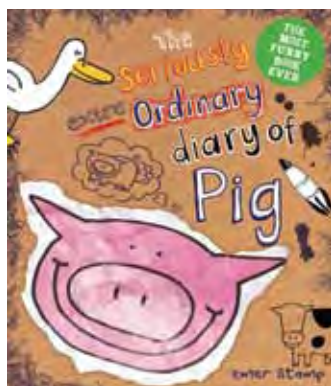
daemon escapes, the Olympian
Gods are summoned to help save the
world. Writer and TV critic Maz Evans
introduces her fast-paced adventures,
Who Let the Gods Out? and *Simply
the Quest*. [C13]

Marie Louise Cochrane and Ailie Finlay Storykist

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
11.30am | £3.50 | family
Storytellers Marie Louise Cochrane
and Ailie Finlay present the Storykist.
Join them for multisensory stories
and games with props, puppets,
songs and lots of joining-in. [C14]

Lindsay Littleton The Lily McLean Series

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
11.30am | £3.50 | 8-12



Emer Stamp, 1pm, Sunday 24 September

Join Kelpies prize-winner Lindsay
Littleton to explore the world of Lily
McLean. Follow Lily's escapades as
she embarks on her summer holiday
and starts high school, and have a go
at writing your own adventure.
80 min. [C15]

Emer Stamp

The Diary of Pig

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
1pm | £3.50 | 8+
Pig loves Farmer because Farmer
gives Pig yummy slops, special back
scratches, calls him Sausage and
seems to love him more the fatter
he gets... which can only mean one
thing! He will need the evil chickens
to save his bacon. Follow the lovable
porker and his farmyard friends on
their eccentric adventures. [C16]

Josh Lacey

The Dragonsitter

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
2.30pm | £3.50 | 7+
It all sounded so easy: Edward was
going to look after Uncle Morton's pet
for a week while he went on holiday.
But soon the fridge is empty, the
curtains are blazing, and the postman
is fleeing down the garden path. Why
won't Morton just answer his email?
Josh Lacey's brilliant *Dragonsitter*
series will appeal to children and
parents alike. [C17]

Chae Strathie

Dear Dinosaur

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | £3.50 | 3+
Max writes letters to his favourite
dinosaur, and T Rex writes back.
As they learn about each other's
lives, an unusual friendship unfolds.
Chae Strathie brings to life his
beautiful interactive picture book,
which contains real letters and some
monster dino facts. [C18]

Lari Don

Spellchasers

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
4pm | £3.50 | 8+
Enter a world of magic, adventure
and friendship with award-winning
author Lari Don, who will reveal the
final part of her *Spellchasers* trilogy.
In *The Witch's Guide to Magical
Combat*, Molly must choose: use
dark magic to save the world or break
her shapeshifting curse and lose her
friend for ever? [C19]

MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

PARTY

Bring a Tiger to Tea

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
5.30pm | £3.50 | family
First published almost 50 years ago,
Judith Kerr's *The Tiger Who Came
to Tea* has charmed and intrigued
generations of children. Join us
for our very own tea party as we
reimagine Sophie's afternoon tea
with her wild visitor. Come dressed as
Sophie or the tiger. [C20]



Maz Evans, 10am, Sunday 24 September

TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

Bookbug Rhymetime

Wigtown Library, County Buildings
10.15-10.45am | free | under 5
Songs, rhymes and stories. [C21]

A Booktown Bookshelf

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | free | family
**Hazel Stevens, Sandy McKnight
and Mary McIlwraith** celebrate
their new books. 90 min. [C22]



Shoo Rayner, 4pm,
Thursday 28 September

WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

Anne Errington Storytelling

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | free | family
Myths and legends of gods, fairy
folk and other supernatural beings
from across the globe. [C23]
Sponsored by Molly Please

THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

Bookbug Rhymetime

Wigtown Library, County Buildings
10.15-10.45am | free | under 5
Songs, rhymes and stories for the
youngest festival-goers. [C24]

WORKSHOP **Shoo Rayner**

Mudpuddle Farm Drawing

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | free | 5+
Michael Morpurgo's delightful
Mudpuddle Farm series features six
hilarious adventures of the animals
that live in the farmyard behind the
tumble-down barn. Join illustrator
Shoo Rayner and create your own
Mudpuddle Farm character. [C25]

FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

Mike Nicholson

Museum Mystery Squad

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | free | 6+
Hidden deep below the exhibits,
the Museum Mystery Squad tackles
unusual happenings. In the latest
tale, Nabster, Kennedy and Laurie
enlist the help of friendly robots to
solve a puzzle. [C26]

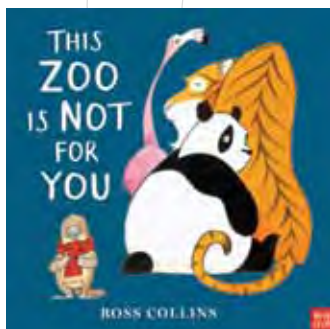
Dr Christoph Englert

Destination: Space

McNeillie Tent
7.30pm | free | 7+
Hop aboard the space shuttle as we
journey through the solar system and
beyond. [C27]

2017 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER



Ross Collins, 11.30am, Saturday 30 September

Play Talk Read

Wigtown Primary Playground
10am-4pm | free | under 5
All aboard Benji for games, activities and stories for little ones. [C28]

Mike Nicholson

The Giant Who Snored

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
10am | £3.50 | 3-6
When the gentle giant begins to snore, it causes chaos in the town galore. A reward from the mayor to stop the noise, but who can do it, girls and boys? [C29]

Philip Ardagh

The World of Moominvalley
Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
10am | £3.50 | 7+
Enter the magical world of Moominvalley, with beautiful maps, family trees and surprising facts. Discover the characters, share their adventures and learn about their creator, Tove Jansson. [C30]

Ross Collins

This Zoo Is Not for You

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
11.30am | £3.50 | 5+
When platypus visits the zoo, the other animals treat him unkindly. Learn about accepting others for who

they are, and how forgiveness and friendship win the day. [C31]

Matthew Fitt

Roald Dahl in Scots

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
11.30am | £3.50 | 7+
Bide awhile, lairn sum braw Scots wirds and read about Matthew Fitt's Roald Dahl translations *The Eejits*, *Geordie's Mingin Medicine*, and *Chairlie and the Chocolate Works*. [C32]

Philip Ardagh & Elissa Elwick

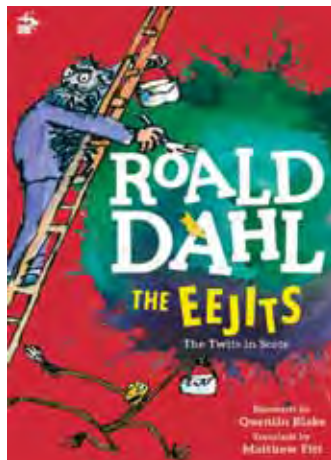
The Little Adventurers

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
1pm | £3.50 | under 5
Finnegan, Sprat, Floss and Peanut adventure outdoors to hunt for garden creatures. [C33]

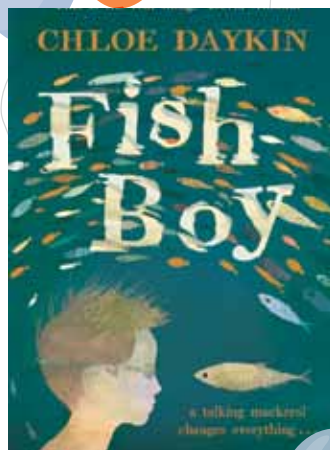
Chloe Daykin

Fish Boy

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
1pm | £3.50 | 9+
Billy loves to watch David Attenborough explaining the wonders of the planet, and to swim in the sea. But then a talking mackerel calls him "Fish Boy" and everything changes. [C34]



Matthew Fitt, 11.30am, Saturday 30 September



Chloe Daykin, 1pm, Saturday 30 September

Sally Crabtree

Poetry for Everyone

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
2.30pm | £3.50 | family
Once a world-class gymnast, Sally Crabtree now turns the world upside down with cartwheeling poems and colourful performances. [C35]

Ian Johnston

Rocket Roadshow

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
2.30pm | £3.50 | 8+
Join Dr Megaphone and Sandy the Science Boy, for fast-paced, high-altitude, creative rocketry. For waterproof children. [C36]

Alan Dapr 

Porridge the Tartan Cat

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
4pm | £3.50 | 6+
Porridge the Tartan Cat and the McFun family come to life in this laugh-out-loud series. There are surprising secrets, helping paws and catastrophes galore. [C37]

WORKSHOP Vivian French & Debi Giori

Superheroes vs Monsters

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
4pm | £3.50 | 9+
Smart or clumsy? Handsome or horrid? Devise a character and story. [C38]

FREE FAMILY FUN – ENJOY THE LAST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL ON US!

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

WORKSHOP

The Champions

South African Peninsula Dance

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
10am | **FREE** | family
The Champions lead their first dance workshop in the UK in Wigtown. Join them to learn how to dance South African style. Have fun, burn some energy and make some noise as you learn the dance of South Africa's younger generation. [C39]

WORKSHOP

Alan Dapr 

Wordplay

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
10am | **FREE** | 7+
Spin the wheel and select the cards to create new characters who would fit into the world of Alan Dapr 's Porridge the Tartan Cat. [C40]

Debi Giori

All the Way Home

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
11.30am | **FREE** | under 5
A sneak preview of *All the Way Home*, the latest children's picture book from author and illustrator Debi Giori. Daddy Penguin looks after the egg while Mummy Penguin finds a fish. But an enormous gust of wind sweeps Daddy and egg into the Arctic. In this heart-warming tale, brave Daddy Penguin persists through the cold to get his Little One home. [C41]
Sponsored by Allan McDowall Electrical

Vivian French

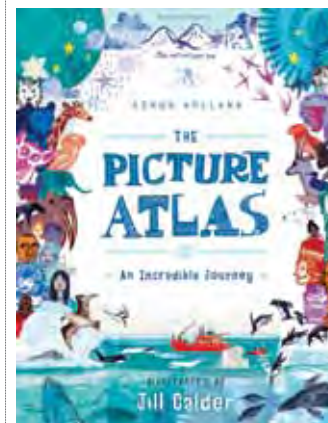
Cherry Pie Princess

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
11.30am | **FREE** | 7+
It's tough being a princess. Acting prim and proper and doing what you're told all the time isn't much fun, and Princess Peony is bored – she wants to learn. Can Peony make

Wigtown Book Festival 2017



Philip Ardagh, 10am, Saturday 30 September



Jill Calder, 1pm, Sunday 1 October

things right after she borrows a recipe book from the library and the librarian is arrested for helping her? [C42]

PERFORMANCE

The Champions

Champions' Tale

Wigtown Primary, The Hall
1pm | **FREE** | family
The story of Tinkler, a young man growing up in rural South Africa. A story of secrecy, lies, confusion and hope, told through dance. Let *Champions' Tale* take you on an emotional journey, discovering the joys, traditions and social norms, respect and experience the dreams of a new generation of young South Africans. 100 mins with interval. [C43]

Jill Calder

The Picture Atlas

Wigtown Primary, The Treehouse
1pm | £3.50 | 5-7
Explore the natural wonders of the world along with its borders, mountains, rivers and seas in *The Picture Atlas*, beautifully drawn by Jill Calder. Spot the Orca whales, the Sydney Opera House and the Great Barrier Reef as you travel the world in illustrations. [C44]

Sponsored by Kirkcowan Primary School

FILM Moomins on the Riviera

County Buildings, The Cinema
2.30pm | **FREE** | 7+
The Moomins set sail for the Riviera, where there's lots of lessons to learn. Cert U. 80 min. [C45]
Sponsored by E & T Wightman

Final Festival Family Fun

Wigtown Primary
3-5pm | **FREE** | family
Celebrate the end of the festival with lots of family fun: draw with **Shoo Rayner**; tell tales with **Renita Boyle**; meet **Amanda Sunderland**'s *Wee McAsh*; make your own Stick Man with **Elizabeth Tindal**; boing on the bouncy castle; and have your face painted as your favourite book character with **Heather Bestel**. [C46]
Sponsored by Wigtown Primary School

wtf.

wigtown: the festival

f www.facebook.com/wigtownthefestival
t #WigtownTheFest

Wigtown's dedicated YA team present a series of entertaining, thought provoking and creative free events aimed at 13-25-year-olds. We hope you'll read, write, make, discuss and be inspired.



WTF Team 2017

SAT23SEPT

Become a Master

11am | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
It's said you need 10,000 hours of practice to be an expert in anything, but most successful people nurture multiple areas of knowledge that feed their central subject. **Robert Twigger**, author of *Micromastery* discusses the benefits of starting small on the path towards mastery. [W01]

Cathy MacPhail's Between the Lies

12.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
A girl is missing in this high school based thriller. Abbie, the school nobody, is the only person she's contacted. A single text: "I want to come home." Suddenly, Abbie becomes somebody, but can she find Jude and bring her back? Multiple award-winning author Cathy MacPhail introduces her latest work. [W02]

Spoken Word Sensation

2pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
A must-see for all budding writers as spoken-word and YouTube marvel **Savannah Brown** discusses and performs her work. Savannah published her poetry anthology, *Graffiti*, when she was just 19. Her goal is to make people feel through poems like *What Guys Look For in Girls* and *Moles Don't Think About Space or Small Talk*. [W03]

The Bombs That Brought Us Together

3.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
He knows the rules in Little Town: no going out after dark; no drinking; no litter; no fighting. But when Charlie meets Pav, the rules start to get broken, and then the bombs come. Winner of a 2016 Costa Award, **Brian Conaghan** introduces his dark and powerful tale. [W04]

Creative Ceramics

5.30pm | Wigtown Primary, Activity Room | free*
Create your own unique design in this hands-on masterclass. Select your piece of pottery to paint with special tools and techniques guided by **Amy McConchie** of Mossyard Farm Pottery. All materials provided (*pottery valued up to £5 free, pay the difference for a larger piece). 2 hours. [W05]



Savannah Brown, 2pm, Saturday 23 September



Creative Ceramics, 5.30pm, Saturday 23 September

SUN24SEPT

Relaxation Rocks

10.30am | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Relax your body and clear your mind with **Heather Bestel**. The perfect start to our mental health day. 45 min. [W06]

Keep Yourself Mentally Healthy Panel Discussion

12 noon | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Too often talking about mental health is still a taboo subject, despite the many psychological pressures faced by young people



Brian Conaghan, 3.30pm, Saturday 23 September

today. Panelists **Savannah Brown**, **Eve Ainsworth** and **Heather Bestel** discuss strategies for coping and invite you to share your thoughts and experiences. [W07]

Craftivism rules!

1.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Sarah Corbett uses craft to help change the world, an approach to activism she calls "gentle protest". In this very hands-on workshop, she'll show how to make Mini Banners (street art to hang in public to provoke not preach) and Don't Blow It Hankies (gifts for power holders). [W08]

Eve Ainsworth's Damage

3pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Gabi has a secret that she must keep from everyone she loves: nothing is fun anymore, not even skateboarding. Eve Ainsworth talks about her emotional rollercoaster of a novel about self-harm and self-acceptance. [W09]

Discovering Scarfolk

4.30pm | McNeillie Tent | £6 / U26 Free
The fictional town of Scarfolk is stuck in 1979. The 1970s loops ad infinitum: pagan rituals blend seamlessly with science, the



WED27SEPT

The Maze Runner

7.30pm | The Cinema | £5 / U26 Free
Thomas wakes in a rusty elevator with no memory of who he is. He's at the centre of an intricate maze and it's a race against time to navigate the ever-changing labyrinth to get out. Cert PG-13. 113 min. [W13]

priority is keeping rabies at bay, and everyone must be in bed by 8pm. **Richard Littler** discusses his inspired comic creation. [W10]

MON25SEPT

How to Edit

7pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Martin Stewart, author of *Riverkeep*, explores the art of editing. Whether you're just starting on your journey as a writer or you're an old hand, hone your skills to fulfil your potential. [W11]

TUE26SEPT

A Stitch in Time

6pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Bind three different miniature books using decorative sewing techniques as artist **Sarah Stewart** brings her Introduction to Bookbinding masterclass to WTF. 90 min. [W12]



Cathy MacPhail, 12.30pm, Saturday 23 September

WED 27 SEPT

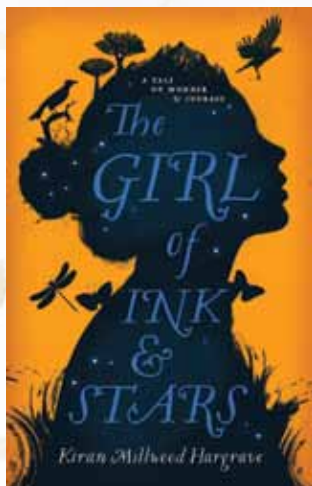
Helen Bagnall's Mind Games

6pm | McNeillie Tent | £6 / U26 Free
Mind Games is an interactive hour that takes you on a whirlwind tour of the history of psychological testing. Discover how the study of the mind was revolutionised in the 20th century as you take part in vintage and modern mind games. Perhaps you'll even discover what you really want from life. [W14]

THUR 28 SEPT

Comics Panel

4.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 Learn how to survive and thrive in the comics industry with hot tips from **Gary Chudleigh** and **Alan Grant**. Comics writer **John McShane** leads the discussion. [W15]



Kiran Millwood Hargrave, 11am, Saturday 30 September

Comic Panel, 4.30pm, Thursday 28 September



Nadine Aisha Jassat, 12.30pm, Saturday 30 September

The Town Hall Meeting

6pm | The Print Room | £5 / U26 Free
 The year is 2018. Brexit looms and the country is in crisis. Out of ideas, the Prime Minister looks to a new generation. A meeting of minds is called and eight young people hammer out a new manifesto. Watch them have their say. [W16]

The Mini Midge

7.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
Renita Boyle hosts an informal storytelling evening sharing tales from real life. Audience participation invited but not compulsory. [W17]

FRI 29 SEPT

How To Draw with Shoo Rayner

5pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 Shoo Rayner shares the basics of drawing, including the best materials to use and top tips for getting your work out there. For beginners or those looking to brush up on the basics. [W18]



Helen Grant, 2.30pm, Saturday 30 September

SAT 30 SEPT

Kiran Millwood Hargrave

11am | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 When Isabella's best friend disappears into the Island's Forgotten Territories, she volunteers to lead the search. Can she chart a safe course with only hand-written maps and a knowledge of the stars? The Waterstone's Children's Prize-winner 2017 discusses *The Girl of Ink & Stars* and introduces her new title, *The Island at the End of Everything*. [W19]



Debi Gliori & Vivian French 3.30pm Sunday 1 October



Shoo Rayner, 5pm, Friday 29 September

Debi Gliori & Vivian French

3.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 Dark and Deadly? Cute and cuddly? The choice is yours. Join Vivian French and Debi Gliori to devise a character and, with their help, create an exciting and original story. 90 min. [W26]

SUN 01 OCT

Writing Masterclass

12.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 Poet **Nadine Aisha Jassat** explores issues of gender-based violence, anti-racism and Islamophobia in her writing. In this creative writing masterclass, she encourages you to commit your thoughts to the page. For beginners and established writers. 90 min. [W20]

Forbidden Spaces with Helen Grant

2.30pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 Veerle gets mixed up in a secret society in this gripping thriller trilogy. At first it's exhilarating, but it quickly turns sinister when a villain from Veerle's past reappears and she is forced into a terrifying game of cat and mouse. [W21]

2017 Draw Off

4pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 One of the hits of 2016, the Draw Off is back. Pencils at the ready as we sketch with some of the festival's awesome artists and illustrators. A lightning-fast test of creativity and quick-thinking. 90 min. [W22]

WTF vs Writers 2017

12 noon | The Burrow | Free
 There's nothing wrong with a bit of healthy competition. This year we challenge visiting writers to an hour of our favourite games. Join us for charades, Pictionary, and Articulate... if you dare! [W23]

The YA Equality Debate

2pm | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 The struggle for equality – of rights, status or opportunities – is a hot topic for many young people today, and a subject that's central to a lot of YA fiction. Our panelists include writer **Nadine Aisha Jassat**, who also consults on issues of gender-based violence. [W24]

An Audience with Rick Edwards

10.30am | The Burrow | £5 / U26 Free
 TV and radio presenter Rick Edwards has worked on Channel 4, E4 and ITV2. Part of the commentary team for the 2012 Paralympics and co-presenter of the political discussion show *Free Speech*, he chats about his life in and out of the public eye. [W25]

Supported by



Rick Edwards, 10.30am, Sunday 1 October

Booking Information

It is possible to book securely online, in person or on the phone. Identifying numbers are provided for each event in listings to make booking easier.

BY PHONE

During office hours: **Tel 01988 403222 or 01988 402036**

IN PERSON

Our box-office is at

Number 11 North Main Street, Wigtown, DG8 9HN.

Opening hours are:

In advance of the festival: **Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm**

During the festival: **Daily 9am-6.30pm**

ONLINE BOOKING

Via our website 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at

www.wigtownbookfestival.com

Payment can be made by:

CASH, CHEQUE, CREDIT/DEBIT CARD



Conditions Wigtown Festival Company does not exchange or refund tickets. WFC reserves the right to alter the programme or substitute writers without prior notice if circumstances dictate. If the ticketed event proceeds but not as advertised, WFC will exchange your ticket(s) for another event of similar value but does not offer a refund. If an event is cancelled outright WFC will offer a full refund.

Become a Wigtown Book Festival Friend

As a registered charity, Wigtown Book Festival relies on the generosity of our supporters to develop our activities year on year. Please help us by becoming a Festival Friend for an annual fee of £25. Renewal information will be sent out in June each year. Benefits include:

- **10% discount on all ticket bookings***
- **An invitation to the festival launch party on Friday 22 September**

You can also become a Friend for Life for £250 which provides the additional benefit of a pair of free tickets to an event of your choice every year and two pairs in the first year. To become a Friend, Friend for Life or find out about other ways of supporting Wigtown Book Festival, including our Giving Circles, please see our website:

www.wigtownbookfestival.com/supporters or phone the office on 01988 402036.

***excluding tickets sold on behalf of other organisations**

Festival office

Our box-office has moved since 2016. It is now located at Number 11, North Main Street, Wigtown Festival Company's new home. For opening hours and details of how to book, see panel (left). Our friendly staff and volunteers will be happy to try to answer any queries that you may have.

Concessions

Subject to availability, visitors under-26 can attend events in the main programme (excluding food and drink events) for free. Book in advance by phone or at the box-office. ID may be requested on collection. Not available online. Registered students over 26 and the wageless can buy tickets for £2 on the door for main programme events from 15 minutes before the start, subject to availability. This concession is valid, on production of ID, from 10am-6pm. Certain exclusions apply. Free tickets are also provided for carers.

Accessibility

Visitors with particular access needs are invited to contact us on 01988 403222. An access statement can be found on our website or is available from our office. The County Buildings Main Hall, Festival Marquee and McNeillie Tent are equipped with induction loops for people with hearing difficulties. StageTEXT surtitles will be provided in the County Buildings, Main Hall, on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September.

Environment

The festival is committed to reducing its environmental impact. Please help by considering ride-sharing or public transport during your visit and by placing used brochures and waste material in the recycling bins provided.



Around & About



Our venues

Our main venues are the Festival Marquee, the County Buildings and the McNeillie Tent, which is located in the garden behind The Old Bank Bookshop. This year we also introduce a new venue, The Print Room, which is just round the corner from the box office, on the New Road. WTF, our festival within a festival for young people aged 13-25, has moved to the The Burrow, directly outside the County Buildings. Most children's events take place at Wigtown Primary School. All the above venues are within five minutes' walk of one another.

Festival Bookshop

The Festival Bookshop is situated behind the Festival Marquee. It hosts book signings and contains books by all the writers appearing at the festival. In advance of the event, some titles are also available at our shop, 11 North Main Street. The bookshop is open 10am-5pm on weekdays and to 6.30pm at weekends.

The Kist

"Kist" is an old word for treasure chest. Situated in front of the County Buildings, The Kist is the place to find art, crafts, food and drink, and homeware from Dumfries & Galloway and beyond. Open 10am-5pm (6.30pm weekends). Wigtown's weekend market also runs from 10am-4pm.

The Swallow Theatre

A magical venue, located in beautiful countryside about 20 minutes' drive from Wigtown, The Swallow is Scotland's smallest theatre. It will be presenting four different shows during the festival. For full details, please see www.swallowtheatre.co.uk.

RSPB Crook of Baldoon

Wigtown Book Festival is delighted to have the RSPB as an associate sponsor. Visit the RSPB nature reserve at the Crook of Baldoon, just outside Wigtown, which offers a panorama of saltmarsh, mudflats and hills. Go to www.rspb.org.uk for details or visit the RSPB stand in The Kist.

Wigtown in Bloom

The team that keeps Wigtown blooming will be serving teas to raise funds in the Baptist Church on Saturday 23 Sept, 10am-4pm.

Church service

Following the conclusion of the festival, Wigtown's churches will hold a joint service in the Festival Marquee at 6.30pm on Sunday 1 October. All welcome.

Charity

Our chosen charity, Fight for Sight, funds medical research into the causes of blindness. Please consider supporting them. www.fightforsight.org.uk

X

marks the spot OR DOES IT?

Can you find the treasure?

Wigtown Customer Services will be running a children's colouring competition for the duration of the festival.

There will also be a treasure hunt to take part in, which will take you to every corner of the festival.

COME INTO THE CUSTOMER SERVICE FACILITY TO GET YOUR COLOURING SHEETS AND TREASURE MAP

Bookbug Sessions

We will also be running extra Bookbug sessions throughout the week and we've increased our opening hours for the week of the festival.

Check the listings to see what's on and when.



Dumfries & Galloway
COUNCIL

wigtownbookfestival.com

VISITING the FESTIVAL



Travel & Accommodation

Situated in the Machars area of Galloway in south-west Scotland, Wigtown is located where the River Cree estuary meets the Solway Firth, with a view towards the Galloway Hills.

By car (postcode DG8 9JH)

Head for Newton Stewart from all directions, taking the turn for Wigtown (A714) at the A75 roundabout. Please allow at least two and a half hours from Glasgow, three hours from Edinburgh, two and a half hours from Carlisle, an hour and a quarter from Dumfries, and 45 minutes from Stranraer or Cairnryan.

By rail

Edinburgh trains stop at Lockerbie; from London Euston change at Carlisle for Dumfries. Onward travel is possible from both towns by bus (see below). From Glasgow, the nearest stations are Stranraer and Barrhill. Buses from Barrhill village are limited, so please check before you travel. Scotrail offers a 20% discount on group bookings of 10 or more on some journeys, by booking 3 weeks prior to travel. Telephone 03448 110141.

By bus

Several operators including National Express (08717 818181) run buses

from Dumfries to Newton Stewart, from where you can pick up local services to Wigtown. Please go to www.dumgal.gov.uk/timetables for details.

Contacts

National Rail Enquiries:

03457 484950

Journey planning:

www.traveline.org.uk

For ferries:

www.stenaline.co.uk

www.poirishsea.com

www.aferry.co.uk

For local taxis:

Marys Taxi: 01671 403035

McLeans Taxis: 01671 404131

Swift Cars: 07927 843602

Accommodation

For places to stay:

www.wigtownbookfestival.com

www.visitdumfriesandgalloway.co.uk

www.visitsouthwestscotland.com

Camping

The campsite is back, offering visitors the chance to sleep out under some of the darkest skies in Britain within a couple of minutes' walk of the festival site. £12 per pitch per night. Basic portable toilet and shower facilities. Tents only. Pre-booking is essential. Please contact

the box office. Caravan site details can be found on our website.

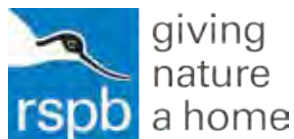
Stay away saver

Can't find a bed on our doorstep? We've joined forces with a number of accommodation providers around 25 miles from Wigtown. Book with one of our accommodation partners and receive a 20% discount on all tickets plus free entry to 10.30am and 4.30pm events (subject to availability). Contact the box office for details.

A daytrip from Northern Ireland

For visitors from Northern Ireland, we're delighted to offer a special day ticket for just £30 on Wednesday 27 September. The ticket allows access to all festival events, subject to availability. Book your foot passenger ticket from Larne to Cairnryan leaving at 7.30am and returning at 10pm. Transport from Cairnryan to Wigtown will be included. Excludes ferry ticket.





The heart of Galloway hosts wonderful wildlife. Visit Wood of Cree the largest ancient woodland in southern Scotland. Wigtown Bay Visitor Centre within Wigtown County Buildings gives information about the local area. Get out in the fresh air at Crook of Baldoon, for seas of thrift, waders and geese. Events all year.

RSPB Scotland Wigtown Office
26, South Main Street, Wigtown,
Wigtownshire, DG8 9EH
Phone 01988 402130

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/seenature/reserves>

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VISITINGtheFESTIVAL



Scotland's National Book Town

In the mid-1990s, it was suggested that a 'book town' on the model of Hay-on-Wye would be a good way to help regenerate a community in Scotland.

Six small towns with varying economic needs submitted bids. Half were from Dumfries & Galloway – Gatehouse of Fleet, Wigtown and Moffat. The others were Dalmellington, Dunblane and Strathaven. An international panel chose Wigtown.

The former county town of Wigtownshire had been at its lowest ebb. There were many empty and run-down properties, and the almost derelict County Buildings on the town square were threatened with demolition. Wigtown then had one of the highest levels of unemployment in Scotland, but the town boasted a beautiful setting and a rich history.

Now there are more than a dozen bookshops and related businesses here. In 1999 the new Scottish Parliament acknowledged Wigtown as Scotland's National Book Town and in the same year the first Wigtown Book Festival took place.

Bookshop Directory

At The Sign of the Dragon

St Ninians, New Road, DG8 9JL
Tel: 01988 403446

wigtowndragon@gmail.com

www.atthesignofthedragon.co.uk

11am-4pm or by appointment

Beltie Books and Café

6 Bank Street, DG8 9HP

Tel: 01988 402730

shop@beltiebooks.co.uk

www.beltiebooks.co.uk

Daily 10am-6pm

The Book End Studio

23 North Main Street, DG8 9HL

Tel: 01988 402403

houston1974@hotmail.com

Opening times vary

The Bookshop

17 North Main Street, DG8 9HL

Tel: 01988 402499

mail@the-bookshop.com

www.the-bookshop.com

Daily 9am-7pm

Curly Tale Books

17-18 North Main Street, DG8 9HL

Tel: 01988 402896

mail@curlytalebooks.co.uk

www.curlytalebooks.co.uk

Daily 10am-5pm

Byre Books

24 South Main Street, DG8 9EH

Tel: 01988 402133

info@byrebooks.co.uk

www.byrebooks.co.uk

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 11am-4pm

Craigard Gallery

13 North Main Street, DG8 9HL

Tel: 01988 403378 or 07903

044929

sarahlstewart@live.com

www.craigardgallery.co.uk

Daily 10am-5pm

GC Books

Online sales only

Tel: 01988 402688

www.gcbooks.co.uk

Glaisnock Café, & Bookshop

20 South Main Street, DG8 9EH

Tel: 01988 402249

enquiries@glaisnock.co.uk

www.glaisnock.co.uk

Daily 8am-8pm

Ming Books at Craft Hotel

30 Main Street, DG8 9HG

Tel: 07500650076

mingbooks@yahoo.com

Daily 10am-10pm

Number 11

North Main Street, DG8 9HN

Tel: 01988 402036

Daily 9am-5pm

The Old Bank Bookshop

7 South Main Street, DG8 9EH

Tel: 01988 402111

oldbankbookshop@gmail.com

www.oldbankbookshop.co.uk

Daily 9am-6.30pm

The Open Book

2 High Street, DG8 9HQ

Tel: 01988 402010

theopenbookwigtown@gmail.com

Daily 9.30am-5.30pm

ReadingLasses Bookshop & Café

17 South Main Street, DG8 9EH

Tel: 01988 403266

readinglasses@hotmail.com

Daily 10am-10pm

WebbooksUK.com Ltd

Online sales only

Tel: 01988 402190

voglerbook@gmail.com

www.webbooksUK.com

Food & Drink

Festival Café

The Festival Café is on the first floor of the County Buildings. Open 9.30am-6pm at weekends (10am-5pm weekdays), it serves snacks, light meals, tea and coffee.

The Kist

Situated outside the County Buildings, The Kist sells local, regional and national food, drink, visual arts and crafts. Open 10am-6.30pm at weekends (10am-5pm weekdays).

Other places to eat and drink include:

Beltie Books and Café

6 Bank Street, DG8 9HP. Tel: 01988 402730
Daily 10am-6pm

Bladnoch Inn

Main Street, Bladnoch, DG8 9AB. Tel: 01988 402200
12pm-12am

Café Rendezvous

2 Agnew Crescent, DG8 9DS. Tel: 01988 402074
Mon-Sat 9am-8pm; Sun 10am-6pm

Cobwebs

31 South Main Street, DG8 9HG. Tel: 01988 402097
Festival opening: 11am-9pm Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun. 11am-6pm Tue.

Craft Hotel & Restaurant

30 South Main Street, DG8 9HG. Tel: 01988 403236
Sun-Thur 10am-12am; Fri-Sat 10am-1am

Galloway Inn

24 South Main Street, DG8 9EH. Tel: 01988 402431
Mon-Thur 2pm-11.30pm; Fri 2pm-1am; Sat 12pm-1am; Sun 12.30pm-11.30pm

Glaisnock Café & Books

20 South Main Street, DG8 9EH. Tel: 01988 402249
Daily 8am-8pm

Hillcrest House

Maidland Place, DG8 9EU. Tel: 01988 402018

ReadingLasses Bookshop & Café

17 South Main Street, DG8 9EH. Tel: 01988 403266
Daily 10am-10pm

Spice & Cheese, Pop Up Wine Bar

24 Lochancroft Lane, DG8 9JA. Tel: 07742 394940
Daily 12pm-9pm

Parking

Town-centre parking is limited but extra parking within close walking distance and disabled parking is provided during the festival. It is shown on the map. Please follow the signs to the Old Showfield (Southfield Park) when you enter Wigtown.

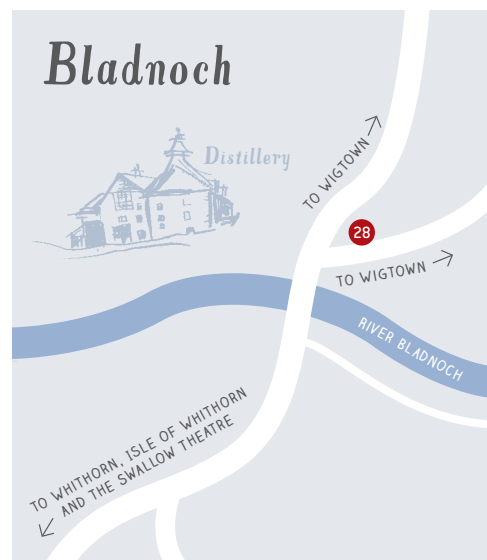
Outside Wigtown

Venues

Maps showing directions to events at venues outside town (listed below) are available from the box office. Most of these venues are around 15-30 minutes' drive from Wigtown. Wherever possible, we will help find transport – usually car-share – to events outside Wigtown. Please contact the box office. Printed directions for drivers are also available, while postcodes for sat-nav are given below.

Postcodes

Sorbie Tower 7.7 miles	(DG8 8AG)
Unit 3 , Bladnoch Bridge Estate 1.1. miles	(DG8 9AB)
Galloway Home Farm 8.6 miles	(DG8 8HF)
Glentroll Visitor Centre 8.6 miles	(DG8 6SY)
The Swallow Theatre 8.9 miles	(DG8 8DR)
Wood of Cree 17.1 miles	(DG8 8DR)
Cream o' Galloway 26.3 miles	(DG7 2DR)
Torhouse Stone Circle 3.5 miles	



- 1 Festival Marquee
- 2 The Print Room
- 3 The Bowling Pavilion
- 4 The Bookshop
- 5 Spice & Cheese Pop Up Bar
- 6 Children's Festival (including The Hall, The Treehouse & The Activity Room)
- 7 County Buildings (including The Cinema, Festival Café, Library & Main Hall)
- 8 The Kist
- 9 The Burrow
- 10 McNeillie Tent
- 11 ReadingLasses Café & Bookshop (including the Pamela Hood Carter Room)
- 12 Sacred Heart Church
- 13 The Open Book
- 14 The Old Manse
- 15 Baptist Church

- 16 Wigtown Market
- 17 Number 11 (including box office)
- 18 Craft / Ming Books
- 19 At the Sign of the Dragon
- 20 Book End Studio
- 21 Curly Tale Books
- 22 Byre Books
- 23 Festival Bookshop
- 24 Glaisnock Café & Books
- 25 Beltie Books & Café
- 26 The Old Bank Bookshop
- 27 Craigard Gallery & Books
- 28 Bladnoch Inn
- 29 Café Rendezvous
- 30 Galloway Inn
- 31 Hillcrest House
- 32 Cobwebs

- Allsorts, North Main St
Bayview Nursery, Bank St
Briars Engravers, North Main St
The Biggest Little Store in Town, North Main St
The Co-operative, North Main St
S Cronnie Family Butcher, North Main St
Dalston Pharmacy, North Main St
Hippidippies, South Main St
Low Vennel Garage, Low Vennel
Machars Action, South Main St
Post Office, South Main St
PS Carpets, Duncan Park
Studio N, North Main St
Traditions, North Main St
Wigtown Community Shop, South Main St
Wigtown Motor Company, Duncan Park

Eve Ainsworth	51	Gary Chudleigh	52	The Galloway Consort	20	Amy McConchie	44, 46, 50	Alec Ryrie	11
A Pilgrim's Progress	24	Ian Cobain	35	Glasgow Women's Library	35	Rachel McCormack	35, 36	Anne Saenen	18
A Taste of Syria	37	Marie Louise Cochrane	46	Debi Giori	41, 48, 49, 53	Finn McCreath	17	Victor Sebastyen	26
Alasdair Allan	13	Ross Collins	48	Julian Glover	28	Hannah McGill	31	Iain Sinclair	15
Philip Ardagh	40, 48	Commoners Choir	17	Alan Grant	52	Anthony McGowan	20	Sweetpea Slight	22
Will Ashon	13	Brian Conaghan	50	Helen Grant	53	Mary McIlwraith	47	Ethyl Smith	22
Claire Askew	35	Mary Contini	41	Andrew Greig	17	Neil McIntyre	26	Jim Smith	25
Polly Atkin	35	Sarah Corbett	18, 53	Catherine Guilyardi	14	Sandy McKnight	47	Southlight	14
Auricle Ensemble	37	Veronica Cossanteli	45	Daphne Halikiopoulou	18	Adam Macqueen	22	Emer Stamp	46
Helen Bagnall	27, 29, 51	Ted Cowan	21, 43	Timandra Harkness	33, 35	Graeme Macrae Burnet	28	Kenneth Steven	40
Patrick Barkham	12	Sally Crabtree	48	Robert J Harris	10	John McShane	52	Hazel Stevens	47
Bella Bathurst	14	Crafty Distillery Tour	22, 29	Roy Hattersley	23	Iain Macwhirter	14	Mark Stevenson	19
Houssain Belabbes	14, 34	Cream o' Galloway Farm	10, 31	Natalie Haynes	29, 30	Sara Maitland	31, 40	Wendy Stewart	33
Martin Bell	39	Robin Crichton	24	Mairi Hedderwick	44	Peter Marshall	30	Martin Stewart	51
Heather Bestel	49, 51	Cheryl Crockett	15	Imke Henkel	37	Gavin Marwick	33	Sarah Stewart	51
Sylvia Bishop	45	Jan Culik	18	Mike Heron	17	Andy Merrifield	36	Chae Strathie	46
Jamie Blackett	43	Alan Dapr�	48, 49	Rachel Hewitt	28	The Midge	27	Street Wisdom	12
Catherine Blyth	26, 28	Chloe Daykin	48	Richard Holloway	13	Philip Miller	19	Amanda Sunderland	49
Irene Boada-Montagut	35	Anne de Courcy	23, 24	Gail Honeyman	25	Kiran Millwood Hargrave	52	Swallow Theatre	21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 33, 39
Antonia Bolingbroke-Kent	20	Richard Demarco	27	Kate Howard	33	Denise Mina	35	Elizabeth Tindal	49
Tony Bonning	44	Tom Devine	33, 40	Laura Hudson Mackay	14, 34	Mind the Time	30	Kevin Toolis	18
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Bookbug Rhymetime	47	Lari Don	47	The Human Book	18, 36	Janet Morgan	11	The Travelling Gallery	30
The Bookshop Band	12, 18, 24, 26, 30	Miranda Doyle	19	Jack Hunter	10	Mostly Ghostly	21, 33	Christopher Trotter	34, 40
Sebastian Borger	37	Draw Off	53	Megan Hunter	19	Jen Mouat	34	Tuck in Tales	45
Jeremy Bowen	35	Ever Dundas	15	Ken Ilgunas	43	Declan Murphy	12	Christopher Turpin	20
Christopher Bowles	34	Rick Edwards	39, 53	InnovateLiterature	29	Douglas Murray	31	Robert Twigger	22, 36, 50
Blair Bowman	17	Mehdi El Ghaly	14, 34	Nadine Aisha Jassat	52	Judy Murray	33	Ryan Van Winkle	36, 39
Renita Boyle	49, 52	Elissa Elwick	48	Tiffany Jenkins	20	Andrew Nicholson	21	Marian Veevers	23
Marie-Elsa Bragg	13	Christoph Englert	47	Ralph Jessop	41	Christopher Nicholson	24	WagTongues	34
Rodric Braithwaite	29	Charlie English	37	Alan Johnson	41	Mike Nicholson	47, 48	Walking with Writers	40
Marcus Brauckmann	37	Anne Errington	14, 34, 47	Ian Johnston	48	Malachi O'Doherty	25	Janet Walkinshaw	11
Bring a Tiger to Tea	47	Gavin Esler	15, 20	Kapka Kassabova	41	Andrew O'Hagan	13	Nikki Welch	17, 21
Chris Brookmyre	23	Europeans in Britain	34	Stuart Kelly	12, 13, 25, 28, 41	Bijan Omrani	26	Kaite Welsh	28
Michael Brooks	31, 33, 39	Maz Evans	46	Bridget Kendall	36	Tom Palmer	44	Louise Welsh	37
Jenny Brown	11, 34	Joseph Farrell	22	Alexandre Kouchner	14	Stuart A Paterson	39	Wigtown's Got Talent	17
Anne Brown	23	Natalie Fergie	26	Josh Lacey	46	Play Talk Read	48	Alan Windram	45
Savannah Brown	50, 51	Films	19, 21, 23, 25, 29, 39, 49, 51	Jenny Landreth	14	Polly Pullar	26	Charlie Wolf	20
Ali Burns	33	Ailie Finlay	46	Paul Laverty	17, 20	Chitra Ramaswamy	31	Allan Wright	17
Shaun Bythell	11, 23, 29, 34	Fireworks	11	Alison Lawrence	15	Lee Randall	31, 41	Robert Wright	13
Jill Calder	49	Matthew Fitt	36, 39, 48	John Lister-Kaye	28	Ami Rao	12	Rosamund Young	27, 28
Myles Campbell	36, 39	Susanna Forrest	24	Richard Littler	21, 51	Mike Rapport	31	Caroline Young	30
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Chris Carman	20	Jessica Fox	22, 31	Abie Longstaff	45	Alex Renton	36		
Andrew Cassell	37, 40	Sarah Fraser	12, 19	Marjorie Lotfi Gill	13	Cathy Rentzenbrink	13, 19		
Ceilidh	39	Vivian French	48, 49, 53	Alan MacDonald	44	Jacqueline Riding	12		
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The Chat Show	12, 18, 24, 26, 30	Iain Gale	10	Angela McCarthy	33	Angus Roxburgh	18		



FESTIVAL TEAM

Adrian Turpin Artistic Director
Anne Barclay Operational Director
Claire Nash Office Manager
Kenny Barr Fundraising Manager
Jane McQuistin Clerical Assistant
George Moore Festival Bookshop
Charlotte Gosling PR & Media
Jessica Fox Cultural Tourism Officer
Harvey Lindsay Admin Assistant

Patrons

Allan Little, Sally Magnusson,
 Bill Paterson, Sir Malcolm Ross,
 Lady Emily Stair, Duchess of Buccleuch

Trustees

Sandra McDowall (chair),
 Michael McCreath (vice-chair),
 Anne Brown, Joyce Cochrane,
 Edward Hocknell, Simon Leslie,
 George Moore, Mary Nicholson,
 Roderick Pryde, Christian Ribbens,
 Michael Smith, Catriona Wilson

Volunteers

Heartfelt thanks to our volunteers, too numerous to list here individually. Without them, the festival would not happen.

2017 brochure

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